



CABLE ADDRESS "FIDELITY"  
USE A.B.C. CODES - 4<sup>TH</sup> & 5<sup>TH</sup> EDITIONS.

# FIDELITY COTTON OIL & FERTILIZER CO.

COTTON SEED PRODUCTS  
FOR DOMESTIC AND EXPORT TRADE

## HIGH GRADE COMMERCIAL FERTILIZERS

JAMES D. DAWSON, PRESIDENT  
GEO. O. HASKELL, VICE PRESIDENT  
R. F. ISBELL, SECRETARY AND TREAS.

P.O. DRAWER M

HOUSTON, TEXAS, January 3, 1912.

Dearest:

Just been having a time. I have had the pleasure of picking out about three suits and putting them down as a debit to my account, or most of them, and I am just fixing up fine fashion for "sometime" when I may need them. I am going to have a real outfit, shoes and all.

About that LITERATURE of yours, I thought really, that I had said something to you about it. It was real good, and if you ever get hard up you can just sit down and write a fairy tale and realize some mezuma. You had better get in practice so you can write long YMCA talks and such like.

What do you suppose? I received a Christmas card from The Honourable Mr. G.P. Pittman and answered it but have never heard anything from him since. Don't know if I got the right address or not. He is now in Houston, or so he says, but I can't see hair nor hide of him. Just you wait, This is LEAPYEAR. See?????????????????????

Tell you what, You had better be getting a little anxious about me, because when I dress up in all my finery and start out, it will not be hard for me to persuade some fellow or other that you are away off from here. They want me to go to Endeavor Business meeting tomorrow night and Currie says he will see me home if I will come. He has been sick and just as he was getting better he had to go home and his father died, and he has just gotten back to Houston. He sure does have a time. It looks like every little cold or anything else that happens to come his way makes him have a real case. Poor kid. I am glad my boy is not that way. Haven't heard anything from your mother or Perry, so suppose she is still with Mr. Hunger. Hope she is doing well.

I wish you were here for a while. I really would like to see your mug and curly mop again. Don't let those girls cut a single curl off or something sure will happen.

Yours lovingly,

FIDELITY  
BRANDS

# FIDELITY CHEMICAL CORPORATION

MANUFACTURERS OF  
**COMMERCIAL FERTILIZERS**  
IMPORTERS AND DEALERS IN  
**AGRICULTURAL CHEMICALS**  
P. O. DRAWER M

*Houston, Texas, Jan. 5, 1912.*

JAMES D. DAWSON, PRESIDENT.  
GEO. O. HASKELL, VICE PRESIDENT.  
R. F. ISBELL, SECRETARY & TREASURER.

Dearest Boy:

I am pretty tired today. been working like I had to to earn my bread and butter. Went to the Endeavor business meeting last night and Curgie brought Miss Rou and I home. I have already promised to propose to Mr. Chapman and Mr. Johnson, and Frances has promised to say yes if I propose to him. I am afraid to try Curgie, though. I might pick up courage to try Val, though. Val and I are pretty good friends. Jim and I don't gee-haw though. I don't know why, but we just don't seem to get along so very well.

Dick and I are still the best of pals and we are getting along very well now as the rain has quit for a while.

I wish I could see you for a while boy dear, I do.

Yours ever lovingly,

*Alma*

**DRAKE UNIVERSITY**

DES MOINES, IOWA.

SHERMAN KIRK  
DEAN, COLLEGE OF THE BIBLE

2

opportunities that are yours, through her efforts. This is not intended as a sermon or lecture, but simply as a gentle reminder and I am sure that it will be received in the same spirit that it is sent. Write me a long letter and give me details of your school work and anything else that you know of.

I'm busier than a cranberry merchant these days. Am on the go from early in the morning until late at night, but am feeling life a millionaire's soon all the time and am getting fat. Am taking time for exercise and recreation and am having lots of fun. I created quite a sensation in the tennis tournament for the championship here yesterday by defeating one of the crack men of the university 6-0 and 6-2. Don't suppose there is any chance for me to win out, but "believe" me they will know they have been playing tennis before they get through with me.

I hear from Alma almost every day and several of the fellows at the Association have written, as well as has Leak and Francis Phair. Take a few moments some time and tell me all the news.

Your brudder

*Kirby*

# Young Men's Christian Association

## Officers

Wm. A. Wilson President  
 Wm. D. Cleveland, Jr. Vice President  
 H. L. Mitchell Treasurer  
 H. C. Breaker Recording Secretary  
 S. F. Carter Treasurer Building Fund  
 I. E. Munger, General Secretary

## Houston, Texas

Fannin and McKinney  
 Telephone Preston 1234

## Directors

J. B. Bowles	D. E. Garrett
H. C. Breaker	W. B. Jones
S. F. Carter	H. L. Mitchell
W. A. Childress	J. W. Neal
Wm. D. Cleveland, Jr	J. M. Rockwell
A. J. Condit	E. W. Taylor
J. V. Dealy	J. L. Thompson
Wm. A. Wilson	

January 6 1912

Copy for Mr Page

Mr S W McGill General Secretary

Young Men's Christian Association

Nashville Tenn

My dear Mr McGill:-

In reply to your letter of the 5th ultime, which came while our Men and Religion campaign was on in full force, I will say that I did not write you immediately for two reasons: First, because Dr Landrith had wired you that Mr Kirby Page was in Drake University and strongly advised your leaving him there. Second, because your letter did not seem to call for an answer. You simply wrote "We are taking the liberty of writing him today and want to advise you of the fact that we are communicating with him.". In observing the real ethics of the case, which I am sure you wished to do, it would seem that you would have delayed writing him until you heard from us. Mr. Page is in college and ought not to be disturbed.

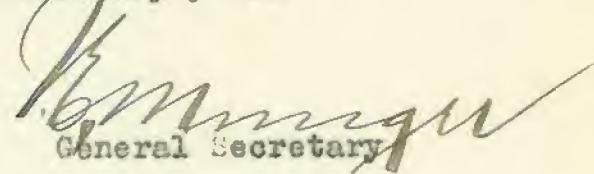
I hope you will not take the above to mean that I would at all object to your approaching him if he were with me under ordinary circumstances. A few weeks ago a General Secretary wrote me enclosing a letter to one of my strongest Secretaries giving him an urgent call. He asked me to read it and if there was any objection to it to return it to him at once, otherwise, to deliver it to the Secretary. It was promptly delivered, and I wrote the General Secretary that it was always my policy never to stand in the way of one of my men being approached, because I did not want to interfere with the Lord's will as to that man or as to some other Association.

In Mr Page's case, however, he had just gone over the matter carefully with his pastor, his mother, myself and other friends, and wisely decided to spend a few years in college. I anticipate, however, that it will have

done no harm in this case, because Mr Page is a sensible fellow.

With kindest regard, and with best wishes for the new year, I am

Fraternally yours

  
General Secretary

IEM/MLM

Dear Kirby: Your splendid  
letter & the report recd  
today. Thanks,  
Your mother well.  
Rest about same.  
Perry in to see me this morn.  
With love from

FIDELITY  
BRANDS

# FIDELITY CHEMICAL CORPORATION

MANUFACTURERS OF  
**COMMERCIAL FERTILIZERS**  
IMPORTERS AND DEALERS IN  
**AGRICULTURAL CHEMICALS**

P.O. DRAWER M

*Houston, Texas,* March 9, 1912.

JAMES D. DAWSON, PRESIDENT.  
GEO. O. HASKELL, VICE PRESIDENT.  
R. F. ISBELL, SECRETARY & TREASURER.

My own dear boy:

I have been having the dickens of a time today.

Mr. Isbell's mother is dying and he and Albert are both away from the office and Mr. Dawson has been out all day and things have all been coming my way, that is things for me to do. Of course, I do them willingly, but there has been so much little odd jobs that it has been quite a jumbled up affair for me and I hardly know if I am private secretary to the president or office boy for the whole shooting match. In fact, I believe I am both and all that comes in between except aeaistant Steno. which falls to the widow a n d is all she is qualified to do., and about all she does. Mrs. Isbell is not expected to live another day, perhaps not the balance of the evening.

I received yours about the secretaryship and other things mentioned in that letter. Of course, I shall not try to answer same today, as I will want to think some about what I shall tell you.

Boy, I am so lonesome that I just don't know what to do, and if anyone would let me I would run away with them, so you had better find something to do up there next year to make a little to ear, and you might also fix up so I can be your assistant operator or secretary or whatever you do. I can

March 11 - 12

Dearest boy of mine!

This has been a dreadfully  
washed day with me and I  
hope you will excuse your  
girlie from writing at length  
until tomorrow as it is already  
after six and I must send a  
long while and put up letters.

Saw Mr. Munger today  
about the loss of Mr. Isbell,  
and will tell you about it  
tomorrow. He also told me  
that a certain good for nothing  
youngster could have a chance  
to help him out this summer.

Went to Mr. Isbell's mother's  
funeral, or rather we all went  
to the house of her daughter,

to Mrs V B Andrew, but not  
to the cemetery. The whole  
force, except Dan, went in the  
Dawson car, or we would  
most likely not have gotten  
there.

Yours ever,

Alma

U. S. R. T. Station  
March 12 - 1910

Dear Kirby:- San Francisco

Thanks for letter - Am OK  
and doing fine - plenty to eat  
get up every day at 5<sup>30</sup>  
go to bed at 9. plenty of  
exercise and work. enjoy  
time of it though taking  
it all around. Am a  
Petty officer now or rather  
right hand of the 2<sup>nd</sup> section  
in the 7<sup>th</sup> Company now  
there is 6 Petty officers  
to each Co. of 84 men  
so you see I was one  
to be picked. Will pay  
couple dollars more a  
month - also get a good

2.

chance to go up. Have a  
fine Gym Lise - Barber  
shop. Work 3 men all time  
I have me a pipe which  
I smoke - Have cut the  
cigarettes for good.

Went to Frisco Sun.  
and viewed the place  
Wont get a full pay boy  
until next month. Heard  
from Mother yesterday.

Write often - Good bye  
to you - So long  
Your Brother  
P. L. Page

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A. J. Condit E. W. Taylor  
J. V. Dealy J. L. Thompson  
Wm. A. Wilson

March 12 1912

Mr Kirby Page

Drake University

Des Moines Iowa

My dear Kirby:-

Just after I had dictated the letter to you Saturday about your coming down to work this summer, I received your letter of the 6th instant.

You no doubt read between the lines what was in my mind, that it would be much better for the Student Secretaryship to be offered to you than for you to ask for it, and I rather regret that you took that course, although no harm may come from it, which I sincerely hope. It is almost without exception best for the office to seek the man rather than the man the office. In my twenty years of work, I have never asked for a position. If the State Committee had any other plan for Drake, you would not want to interfere with it, and, on the other hand, if they favored your taking the work you ought to have the benefit of their moral support. In fact, you would need it together with their cooperation for real success in your work. If I do not hear from Mr Parsons very soon, I shall write him again.

I am sure you agree with me in all that I have said by your very frank letter in which you said "This no doubt would have been the better way, but it did not occur to me that this was the proper avenue of approach until your letter came, and then, as I have already stated, it was too late to do differently." Perhaps one of the things for you to learn this year along this line is to be a little more deliberate.

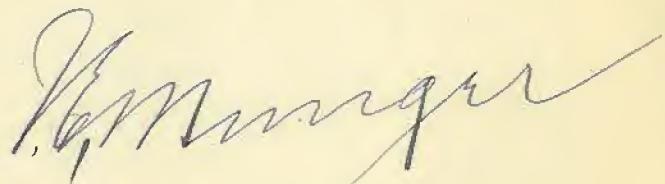
Now, about the other matter in your letter, I am very glad that you wrote promptly, and I am going to get in touch with Miss Alma immediately and find out what more she knows about the matter. There are so many chances for a mistake or a misunderstanding that I want to look into it very thoroughly without any publicity. To jump at the conclusion and to assume it impossible that there could have been a mistake might be an injustice to some one, and it might also defeat our learning the real truth in the case. After talking with her, I hope to see Mr Isbell and cooperate with him in ferreting out the matter.

Now, as to the foreign work, you are passing the same way that I traveled twenty-five years ago and should, I believe, step very carefully. With the coming of these new and important experiences you may see the wisdom of our desire that you might not be married too soon, before your life plans are pretty fully settled, - that you might not defeat the will of the Master in your life. You have reached the point where you cannot attain your highest usefulness unless you are perfectly willing to say "All that Thou commandest me I will do, and whithersoever Thou sendest me I will go." It is not my conviction, as it is with some, that every man must go to the foreign field, but it is my firm conviction that every man must be willing to go, for that is just another way of letting the Lord have his way in your life, and without that the highest efficiency never can be attained. That first step having been taken, you may be ready to at least consider the next, and it should be considered carefully, for if you sign a declaration that it is your purpose, God permitting, to go to the foreign field, it will be because of your conviction as to the need and you should then make the honest effort to go. I went and was greatly blessed in my work, and, although I lost my wife and my health for many years, I never regretted the going. One who has once been on the firing line always finds it equally hard to say "All that Thou commandest me, etc." when called upon to go back to the rear.

I certainly hope and pray that you may be carefully led at this time, and to this end, that you may not be too impulsive in this matter. There is too much at stake.

With much love, I am

Sincerely yours





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GEO. O. HASKELL, VICE PRESIDENT  
R. F. ISBELL, SECTY AND TREAS.

P.O. DRAWER M

HOUSTON, TEXAS, March 14, 1912.

My dear boy:

I am finished with my work early today, or at least I have finished with what I have. It rained again today and I had to ride on the street car this evening. The ground hog sure did make a true prediction when he saw his shadow and went back into his hole on Feb. 2nd. as we haven't had three consecutive days good weather since, I don't believe. The ground does not have time to get the least bit dry, and it has not been dusty, really dusty in so long that we hardly know what dust looks like, aside from that which is brought into the house and gets dry around the stove or that made when some ashes get scattered in the house, for the house is the only place that gets a yways dusty, and that in the rooms where we have fires.

I think probably I will go down to League City to see Cleo Sunday. I don't know. It may rain so that I will have to stay home. I would hate to go and not wear my good hat and then I would hate to get it wet or damaged.

I am sorry life is so bad "without a wife" what do you suppose it is "without a husband" or someone to take a Husband's place. or even a Husband-to-be.

Yours ever,

*Alma*





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P.O. DRAWER M

HOUSTON, TEXAS, March 16, 1912.

JAMES D. DAWSON, PRESIDENT  
GEO. O. HASKELL, VICE PRESIDENT  
R. F. ISBELL, SECTY AND TREAS.

Dearest boy of mine:

Today is another Saturday, and thus another week is gone. I am certainly glad time is going so fast.

I think I will try to go to Sunday School tomorrow and see if I can't get a little good. I am feeling much better than I was for a while, and Spring or no Spring, I got out twenty letters in an hour today. That is almost all the work I had. At least I had only 27 letters all the evening and only a few this morning, with a few statements and insurance certificates to make up, however, I manage to make myself useful around, as I want "actions to speak louder than words" for me.

I am going to Cleo's next Sunday, the 24th and see the race between the train, auto, motorcycle and airship between Houston and Galveston.

Yours ever and ever,

**DRAKE UNIVERSITY**

DES MOINES, IOWA.

SHERMAN KIRK  
DEAN, COLLEGE OF THE BIBLE

March 16 1912

*Dearest wife:*

Yesterday was a great day for me in the letter line - one from mother, one from Mr Munger and your long and interesting letter.

In reply to your inquiry as to whether or not it would be necessary for me to take additional school work if I planned to go to the foreign field, let me say that it would not be necessary, although there is a missionary training school at Indianapolis where some of the prospective foreign workers go for a year before they sail. Your reply to my letter was just about what I had expected it would be. We will not make any definite decision until we can talk it over together. I wrote Mr Munger for his advice in the matter and am going to quote a part of his letter in reply:

"Now as to the foreign work, you are passing the same way that I traveled twenty-five years ago and should, I believe, step very carefully. With the coming of these new and important experiences you may see the wisdom of our desire that you might not be married too soon, before your life plans are pretty fully settled, - that you might not defeat the will

of the Master in your life. You have reached the point where you can not attain your highest usefulness unless you are perfectly willing to say, "All that Thou commandest me I will do, and whithersoever Thou sendest me I will go." It is not my conviction, as it is with some, that every man must go to the foreign field, but it is my firm conviction that every man must be willing to go, for that is just another way of letting the Lord have his way in your life, and without that the highest efficiency never can be attained. That first step having been taken, you may be ready to at least consider the next, and it should be considered carefully, for if you sign a declaration that it is your purpose, God permitting, to go to the foreign field, it will be because of your conviction as to the need, and you should then make the honest effort to go. I went and was greatly blessed in my work, and, although I lost my wife and my health for many years, I never regretted the going. One who has once been on the firing line always finds it equally hard to say, "All that Thou commandest me, etc." when called upon to go back to the rear. I certainly hope and pray that you may be carefully led at this time, and to this end, that you may not be too impulsive in this matter. There is too much at stake."

This certainly sounds like good advice to me and I am going to do some pretty serious thinking about what he says. He is about as true a friend as any one could wish for, and I hope that you will take advantage of his opportunity to visit

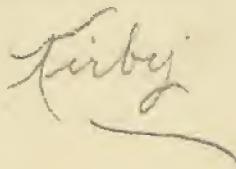
Tell Billy for me that he is not half as anxious to have me come home so that he can get some ice cream as I am to get home and help him dispose of the aforesaid mentioned article. I suppose you will see to it that the swing is in good working order when I get there, for it surely will have to do double duty for a while. Won't it, sweetheart?

I was out to a social given by one of the Literary societies last night with Mildred, and had a great old time of it. I counted it up last night and find that I have been with seven different girls since coming here, which is as many as I have gone with the balance of my life put together. Guess I must be "going some".

The snow is beginning to melt today and it looks as if Spring was about to come. It won't be long now until June and then - ? ?

I think you are showing remarkable good judgement and common sense in the way you are looking at certain things that pertain vitally to our future life, and I am prouder of you than every dearest. You surely will make me a good wife. I love you baby dear, and wish that I might kiss you to show how much I love you.

Devotedly yours

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Tibby".

# LINCOLN AVENUE LUMBER CO.

INCORPORATED

DEALERS IN

## Rough and Dressed Lumber, Lime, Lath and Cement

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3-16-1912.

Pasadena, Cal.

191

Dear Kirby:-

Yours arrived two days ago and was read with considerable interest. You certainly deserve to be congratulated warmly on the success you are enjoying as an athlete. It does our hearts good to hear the good news, so keep it up. The benefits are great besides the joy of winning and being held in great esteem as a result. Your aspirations to be Student Secretary are worthy it seems to me. Therefore, I wish you success in your endeavour to secure the position. There is a danger of attempting too much before one is fully equipped and prepared but I believe you could handle this. And so you expect to be at home with your sweetheart and mother in June. Well, hasten the glad day and joyful be your reception on your arrival. May you be hung, drawn and quartered as your just desserts. Hung, in the walls of prosperity; drawn, by a chariot and four; and quartered in the arms of the one you love best. I agree with you that your privileges are great in hearing so many good speakers and attending such conventions. There is a spirit of Anti-Christ abroad today in the form of new or advanced thought. I hope you do not become involved in this to the detriment of your faith and solid foundation in Jesus Christ. Our minister at this place is overboard by far in his advancement of Theosophy and the new thought. I wonder how much stress is being laid upon the true position of the Roman Catholic hierarchy in your development and training for Christian work. I am a subscriber to a little paper entitled "The Menace" which has done much to increase my already large fund of knowledge along this line. It is cheap and well worth your earnest consideration. The Roman Catholic Church has come to my mind as the beast spoken of in the Bible, ready to overthrow and destroy the true Church. Watch them try to make the U.S. the foremost Catholic nation in the world: and their efforts to overthrow the public schools and our marriage customs and ceremonies. The biggest fraud and graft on earth, to my notion. Fight it!!

I have a letter from Perry stating that he had an encounter with a big tough 'stiff' and that he sprained his wrist and split his fingers on his teeth on knocking him higher than a kite. The old boy went to hospital three times a day for a week to be treated. Says he has the best of the fight however. He has been transferred to another company and promoted also, to the position of "right guard" which is one of six petty officers. Appears to be doing well and gaining ground in his struggle for character and the right. I think he will be benefitted indeed. I am informed that Sister will have nothing more to do with him.

Mr J Dawson  
Empire of Love

Sunshine of Christianity  
the & Parkhurst  
outline in History Theology  
Mr Weston Clark  
the use of in Theology  
cause

② Fact of Christ & the Gospels

Simpson ~~the~~ origin & nat.

May of Jesus ~~the~~ Gospels - book  
second half

God message  
to man  
machine.

Prophets of Israel St. L. Smith  
Teachings of Jesus  
Jesus the Gospels - James Denny

FIDELITY  
BRANDS

# FIDELITY CHEMICAL CORPORATION

MANUFACTURERS OF

COMMERCIAL FERTILIZERS

IMPORTERS AND DEALERS IN

AGRICULTURAL CHEMICALS

P. O. DRAWER M

Houston, Texas,

March 18, 1912.

JAMES D. DAWSON, PRESIDENT.  
GEO. O. HASKELL, VICE PRESIDENT.  
R. F. ISBELL, SECRETARY & TREASURER.

My dear boy:

I received two letters from you this morning, one that you thought you had lost and the one following. This old burg is just about as slow and lazy as it always was and nothing ever happens unless some crazy goose kills himself or someone else, or runs away with someone else's wife, all of which never concerns us much, fortunately.

I went to Sunday School yesterday but refused to go to Endeavor, and it was well I did so, as I had a headache last night. I went riding all over the country for about three hours, and we had a nice little quiet time at home until late in the evening when everyone we ever know, know, or have known dropped in. There were three people there, Cousin Eva, Uncle Will, and a disreputable cousin of ours, and they all wanted supper, and they got it, at least what was left from dinner and that was all.

Thank the lord work is getting some lighter now and Mr. Isbell is talking or thinking of taking a day or two to fish, but I am afraid things will take some kind of a turn to keep him here. I wouldn't care if Mr. D. would go away too, and as Mr. Haskell is always down at Fidelity, Texas, the Company's new plant, he is not in the way. We are going to buy some hammocks as soon as

Officers

Wm. A. Wilson, President  
Wm. D. Cleveland, Jr., Vice-President  
H. L. Mitchell, Treasurer  
H. C. Breaker, Recording Secretary  
S. F. Carter, Treasurer Building Fund

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A. J. Condit E. W. Taylor  
J. V. Dealy J. L. Thompson  
Wm. A. Wilson

# Young Men's Christian Association

Houston, Texas

Fannin and McKinney Telephone Preston 1234

I. E. Munger, General Secretary

H. O. Douglass, Business Secretary  
B. W. Godfrey, Secretary for Boys  
Herbert L. Crate, Associate Secretary for Boys  
C. O. Michael, Educational Secretary  
Porter Donly, Employment Secretary  
L. H. Snyder, Foreign Secretary, Seoul, Korea  
Jno. D. McClelland, Membership Secretary

L. Theo. Bellmont, Director of Physical Work  
Roy B. Henderson, Associate Director of Physical Work  
W. P. Campsey, Associate Director of Physical Work  
C. P. Younts, Religious Work Director  
E. O. Garrett, Office Secretary  
H. A. Lee, Office Secretary  
R. C. Steele, Restaurant Manager

March 19 1912

Mr Kirby Page

Drake University

Des Moines Iowa

My dear Kirby:-

Your short letter came yesterday and was appreciated, and it was followed by the notes on the Bible Lecture, for which I want to send you a check. Please let me know how much they sell for. I am so very glad to get it.

Enclosed is a copy of a letter just written to Godfrey which will give you the news of the week.

We are all about the same at the house.

With love, I am

Sincerely yours



Enclosure

IEM/MLM

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Wm. D. Cleveland, Jr. J. M. Rockwell  
A. J. Condit E. W. Taylor  
J. V. Dealy J. L. Thompson  
Wm. A. Wilson

March 19 1912

Copy for Mr Page

Mr Blake W Godfrey

Caplen Texas

My dear Blake:-

Your card came this afternoon. We think of you often, speak of you often, and miss you very much; but I am so glad that you have sense enough to remain there until you can get some real benefit from the trip. I sent you two more of the little books yesterday.

These are busy times. We had a meeting Sunday afternoon of over three hundred men with twenty-two conversions, and a sing in the game room Sunday night from 5:30 to 7:30. Bellmont's gymnasium exhibition drew a crowded house last night and is to be repeated tonight. Everything was most successful. The Executive Committee of the Men and Religion Forward Movement met today. Dr Hay was appointed delegate to the Conservation Congress. Mike and Magee's Colonial Concert Friday night promises to be the best yet.

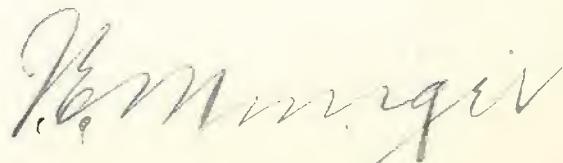
Herbert is getting strong and is sitting on the lid in good shape.

Dr Bruner is advertised for next Sunday, and we expect a great meeting. Younts had the promise of nineteen men today for a Bible Class at the Houston Structural Steel Company and when he went he found thirty-eight men present.

The following men are going to the State Convention at Austin: W A Wilson, Bellmont, Campsey, Garrett, Lee, McClelland, Donly, A M Thompson, and possibly Schenberger and Condit. Your humble servant is on the program but will more than likely remain at home. I do not feel like getting so far away from Father at this time. His general condition seems to me a little weaker.

The boys would all join me in sending love if they knew I was writing. Stay as long as you think best.

Sincerely yours





CABLE ADDRESS "FIDELITY"  
USE A.B.C. CODES-4<sup>TH</sup> & 5<sup>TH</sup> EDITIONS

# FIDELITY COTTON OIL & FERTILIZER CO.

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JAMES D. DAWSON, PRESIDENT  
GEO. O. HASKELL, VICE PRESIDENT  
R. F. ISBELL, SECY AND TREAS.

P.O. DRAWER M

HOUSTON, TEXAS, March 20, 1912.

Dearest boy:

Well, what do you think, I am going to the Y.M. Friday night, with Cousin. They Dormitory boys are going to give another play and cousin got the tickets and we are going.

I also had Dickie go and get a good shave yesterday and he looks just like a big Jack Rabbit, without any fur. He is now a different color, and altogether, he looks much better.

Have been working like !!!!!!! all the evening, and then some. didn't get my letters until after three and then finished them by five and made three statements and then I am writing this great big letter to you. Going some isn't it.

Just think, dear, it will soon be time for you to be back, and then, - - - - -

Yours ever and ever,

*Alma -*

FIDELITY  
BRANDS

# FIDELITY CHEMICAL CORPORATION

MANUFACTURERS OF

COMMERCIAL FERTILIZERS

IMPORTERS AND DEALERS IN

AGRICULTURAL CHEMICALS

P. O. DRAWER M.

Houston, Texas, March 22, 1912.

JAMES D. DAWSON, PRESIDENT.  
GEO. O. HASKELL, VICE PRESIDENT.  
R. F. ISBELL, SECRETARY & TREASURER.

Dearest boy of mine:

I wonder why it is I get so Grumpy sometimes. I guess it was caused today by starting out with a rain and coming in and finding about six post cards that I had colored up all gene and haven't heard from them as yet. It makes me positively angry for anyone to meddle with things in my desk after I am away and then take things to boot. I haven't found out if it was a joke or just sure enough plain hard down TAKING. (stealing.)

Today is the date appointed for the YM Clee Club stunt and I guess I will go, although it is very muddy and if it gets any worse will have to give it up, but it is all-right at present and hasn't rained since half past one, which is going some. We had a long nice dry spell and we actually had some dust. Think of it, DUST in Houston this year. Guess we will get enough of it this summer, though.

Have been a very good girlie today and written a few letters for Mr. I. Wrote a couple of YOUNG letters for Mr. D. yesterday, and didn't do much else.

Hope you made through your exams all right.

Yours ever,

*Alma*

March 21 1912

Messrs A C McClurg & Company  
Chicago Illinois

Gentlemen:-

I would appreciate it if you would kindly tell me if you can furnish me with the following books, and also state prices of each:-

The Origin and Nature of the Bible -  
Dodd.  
The Use of the New Testament in Theology -  
Wm. N. Clark.  
The Way of Jesus -  
Wm. D. Hyde.  
Outlines in Christian Theology -  
Wm. N. Clark  
Empire of Love -  
Wm. J. Dawson.  
Sunshine of Christianity -  
Charles H. Parkhurst.  
Fact of Christ -  
Simpson.  
God's Message to Man -  
Ian Maclaren.  
Prophets of Israel -  
W. R. Smith.  
Teachings of Jesus -  
Wendt.  
Jesus & the Gospels -  
James Denny.  
Ecce Homo -  
Ecce Deus -

I would also appreciate your sending me your catalog of books on religious subjects, if you issue one.

Yours sincerely

Secretary to Dean of Bible College

dark haired with large eyes, blue, I believe. Do you happen to know him, or is it someone that has come there since you left? Anyhow, it sure was a nice neat job and Mr. Isbell found it out when he had left the building. He was waiting for his wife and had to walk the streets and find someone he knew to borrow car-fare to go home on.

Nothing new in this old burg of ours as yet. Things are still going on the same as ever. I haven't been to church since the night of the Social, which was about the 16th or somewhere about that. I felt too bad Sunday and then too, it looked so much like rain that I was afraid that I might get my hat wet. Nice child, I am, Don't you think?

No letter from you for about three days. Guess they must have gotten delayed on the road or either you had such a good time on your trip that you have forgotten me:

Yours ever and ever, faithfully,

*Alma*

# Young Men's Christian Association

## Officers

Wm. A. Wilson President  
 Wm. D. Cleveland, Jr. Vice President  
 H. L. Mitchell Treasurer  
 H. C. Breaker Recording Secretary  
 S. F. Carter Treasurer Building Fund  
 I. E. Munger, General Secretary

## Houston, Texas

—  
 Fannin and McKinney  
 Telephone Preston 1234

## Directors

J. B. Bowles	D. E. Garrett
H. C. Breaker	W. B. Jones
S. F. Carter	H. L. Mitchell
W. A. Childress	J. W. Neal
Wm. D. Cleveland, Jr	J. M. Rockwell
A. J. Condit	E. W. Taylor
J. V. Deal	J. L. Thompson
Wm. A. Wilson	

March 2 1912

Mr Kirby Page

Drake University

Des Moines Iowa

My dear Kirby:-

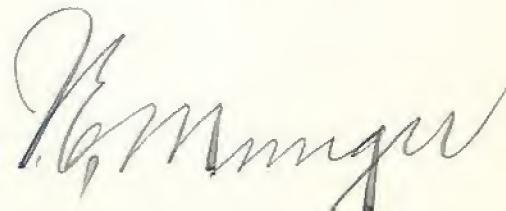
Thanks for your letter of the 26th ultimo which came today.

I am very glad that you were able to attend the State Missionary Convention at Cornell. That was one of my old haunts when in the State work there nearly twenty years ago. I am glad to hear from Mr Rugh.

Of course, you know I am glad to cooperate with you in the Drake matter and have just written Messrs Parsons and Fellingham according to the enclosed carbons. However, it does not seem to me wise to write your President just at this time, nor would I advise your going to him with the proposition that you think of making. It would be much better from every point of view to get Mr Parsons' approval and have him or the College State Secretary present the matter to your President. After that is done, if you will care to telegraph me, in case you think it is necessary, I will gladly write your President as strong a letter as I can.

I am writing in haste but with love.

Sincerely yours



Enclosures

IEM/MLM

# Young Men's Christian Association

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Wm. D. Cleveland, Jr. Vice President  
H. L. Mitchell Treasurer  
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Wm. A. Wilson	

March 2 1912

Copy for Mr Page

Mr J H Fellingham General Secretary

Young Men's Christian Association

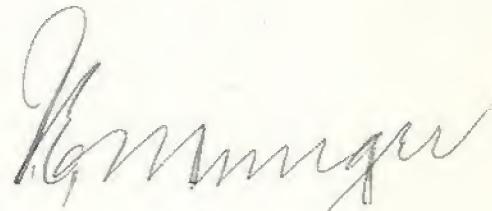
Association Building

Des Moines Iowa

My dear John:-

Enclosed find copy of letter just written to Mr Parsons which explains itself. If you can in any way cooperate in this matter to help in the situation at Des Moines and to aid Mr Page to a larger usefulness, I will greatly appreciate it.

Fraternally yours



Enclosure

IEM/MLM

# Young Men's Christian Association

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Wm. A. Wilson	

March 2 1912

Copy for Mr Page

Mr Wm Parsons State Secretary

Young Men's Christian Associations

Association Building

Des Moines Ia

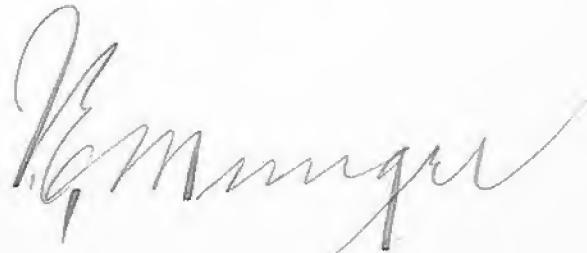
My dear Parsons:-

You will remember my having written you about Mr Kirby Page of Drake University, formerly one of my Secretaries here in Houston where he worked with the Association for about four years. He has been doing splendid work in connection with the Christian Endeavor Society of the Christian Church there, and his heart is in the Young Men's Christian Association work to which he has given his life and for which he is trying to better prepare himself. I understand that it is possible that the Students' Secretary may be entirely dispensed with at Drake next year which would seem to me most unfortunate. The University authorities do not feel that they are justified in paying a man \$1,000 a year for the work, and they are thinking of giving it up altogether. However, you may have known this already. I would like to suggest this for your consideration: Mr Page could give part time as Student General Secretary and do better than some men I have seen giving all their time. If you think it is wise, I wish you or your College Secretary might take the matter up with the President and with Mr Page. I can recommend him as consecrated and qualified in every way.

With kindest regard and hoping to hear from you, I am

Fraternally yours

IRM/MLM



March 2 1912

Mr Wm Parsons State Secretary  
Young Men's Christian Associations  
Association Building  
Des Moines Ia

My dear Parsons:-

You will remember my having written you about Mr Kirby Page of Drake University, formerly one of my Secretaries here in Houston where he worked with the Association for about four years. He has been doing splendid work in connection with the Christian Endeavor Society of the Christian Church there, and his heart is in the Young Men's Christian Association work to which he has given his life and for which he is trying to better prepare himself. I understand that it is possible that the Students' Secretary may be entirely dispensed with at Drake next year which would seem to me most unfortunate. The University authorities do not feel that they are justified in paying a man \$1,000 a year for the work, and they are thinking of giving it up altogether. However, you may have known this already. I would like to suggest this for your consideration: Mr Page could give part time as Student General Secretary and do better than some men I have seen giving all their time. If you think it is wise, I wish you or your College Secretary might take the matter up with the President and with Mr Page. I can recommend him as consecrated and qualified in every way.

you, I am

With kindest regard and hoping to hear from

Faternally yours

LMH/MLM

Copies sent to Mr Fellingham and Mr Page

March 2 1912

Mr J H Fellingham General Secretary  
Young Men's Christian Association  
Association Building  
Des Moines Iowa

My dear John:-

Enclosed find copy of letter just written to Mr Parsons which explains itself. If you can in any way cooperate in this matter to help in the situation at Des Moines and to aid Mr Page to a larger usefulness, I will greatly appreciate it.

Faternally yours

Enclosure

Copy sent to Mr Page

IEM/MLM

March 2 1912

Mr Kirby Page

Drake University

Des Moines Iowa

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I am writing in haste but with love.

Sincerely yours

Enclosures

IEM/MLM

*Munger*

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MANUFACTURERS OF  
**COMMERCIAL FERTILIZERS**  
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**AGRICULTURAL CHEMICALS**  
P. O. DRAWER M

*Houston, Texas, March 2, 1912.*

JAMES D. DAWSON, PRESIDENT.  
GEO. O. HASKELL, VICE PRESIDENT.  
R. F. ISBELL, SECRETARY & TREASURER.

Dearest boy of mine:

Well, this is another Saturday and it only seems as if the week were just started. Gee, but the time is flying by, and it will soon be June again and you will be back with me. I have decided that I want to take my vacation early and be back by the time you get here. What part of the month will you be likely to get back? There is also method in my madness as well as schemes. While I take my vacation, the work will not be so light as it will be during the latter part of June when the Widow has her chance, and then also the watermelons will be ripe when I get back and I will not miss any of them. I am in much hopes that there will be some good ones here this year, and if there is not there sure is going to be some war in camp. Old Tom has promised to give us some good ones however and I think we will have them, the weather and such permitting. And if we do, just you want, this kid will just simply live on them, or at least I will get my FULL share.

Sure glad you are having a good time up there and wish I was there to help you enjoy yourself, because there is not much sociability down here as far as I am concerned. However, I am getting along all right and having a time of my own.

Yours with love,

*Alma*

DRAKE UNIVERSITY

DES MOINES, IOWA.

HILL McCLELLAND BELL  
PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY.

March 4, 1912.

Mr. Kirby Page,

Drake University.

My dear Mr. Page:-

Your letter of March 4th is just received.

In answer I will say that it would be proper for you to communicate with the Y.M.C.A. directly, as the University will not undertake another year either to pay the salary or in any way direct the efforts of the secretary. It is my opinion that our experience has not justified the plan adopted for this year. I believe it is not the fault of the present secretary, the University, or the Y.M.C.A. I think it is simply a wrong plan. In case the Y.M.C.A. think it wise to employ a secretary next year, I shall be glad to assist personally in financing the plan.

Very truly yours,

*Hill M. Bell*

DAR.

2  
Family fine and others  
now. Did you  
the pictures O.K.  
haven't heard from  
some lately. I believe  
told you Watch was  
Cawthron's about Nov 16  
I weak now but will  
be more later. Regards  
Mr. Menges.

Hope you are well  
everything O.K.

Love to my Mother  
as ever  
Your Boy  
P.L.P.

4<sup>th</sup> P.M.  
March 30-1912  
at Hospital  
U.S.N. S. I. Station  
San Francisco.

Dear Mother:-

Have been sick for  
the past week but am  
better now just a few  
minutes ago got up.

Am still weak but will  
be alright in a few  
days. just a bad cold,  
fever, and Bronchitis (acute)  
had nothing but milk for  
4 meals. Hospital treatment  
or for any kind of  
sickness in the navy  
does not cost me  
or any body else anything

March 4-1912  
6:30 P.M.

Dear Mother:-

Thanks for letter - Am  
getting along fine now - am in  
the 7<sup>th</sup> <sup>(assistant)</sup> Company. Am a Petty  
Officer already (right Guido)

Hurt my wrist pretty bad  
last week in a fight I had  
sprained it and split my  
fingers where I hit him.

I got the best of it though  
Had to have it dressed 3 times  
a day at the hospital - it  
all right now though. We go  
below to the barracks tomorrow

Will write all soon as I  
get settled there - Love to my  
Mother -

Your Boy  
P.L.P.



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## HIGH GRADE COMMERCIAL FERTILIZERS

P.O. DRAWER M

HOUSTON, TEXAS, March 4, 1912.

JAMES D. DAWSON, PRESIDENT  
GEO. O. HASKELL, VICE PRESIDENT  
R. F. ISBELL, SECTY AND TREAS.

Dear Boy:

Got another nice little letter from you this morning. I also rode Dickie down this morning and guess I will ride every day hereafter. I tell you it sure does seem good to be able to ride again and I sure do enjoy it. I also rode him out in the woods yesterday. We all went and the two little gordon kids also, and I rode Dickie and showed them the way. The kids got all the wild violets they could pick and I got them some wild plum blossoms. It was one of those warm, sunshiny, lazy days of the early spring, and everybody felt so lazy and happy-go-lucky. I just let Dickie loose to eat the grass and stretched out on the grass while the kids ran around looking for violets and got red and warm. Mother and daddy enjoyed it too.

I went to Sunday School, but did not go to Endeavor. I think I shall stop going up town to Endeavor until you come back, as I am tired out, or at least until I feel much better than I do at present. I don't feel much like anything and have those old bothering headaches so much. Wish you were here to run them away. I think I shall have to go and have my glasses changed and see if that won't help.

Yours ever,

*Alma -*

Drake University

Des Moines, Iowa, March 6, 1912

My dearest Sweetheart:

I am not sure whether or not I told you that Thompson, the present Secretary of the Student Association, would not be here another year, and that I had applied for the place. President Bell informed me today that the University was not going to employ a Secretary another year, but that if the Association wanted to raise money for a Secretary for part time, he would back them in their efforts. He further said that he was reasonably sure they would be able to raise the necessary funds. Furthermore, he said that he thought I would make an excellent man for the place. Nothing more can be done now until the association takes some definite action. Will keep you posted as to developments.

Des Moines, Iowa. 191

2.  
I have another matter that I wish I could see you and talk to you about, but since I can't do that, I will try and tell you something about it by letter.

One of the Student Volunteer Secretaries came to me today and said he wanted to have a conference with me, so this afternoon we got off by ourselves and had a long talk together. The Student Volunteer Movement, as you perhaps know, is an international organization composed of different Student Volunteer bands, and these different Volunteer bands are made up of those persons who have signified their intention of becoming Foreign missionaries. This man today presented to me very strongly the matter of preparing for association work in foreign lands. Before a man can go to the foreign field

Drake University

4. Des Moines, Iowa. 191

until we could go over the matter thoroughly together, but I am just wondering how it appeals to you at first thought. I understand that you possibly are not as well acquainted with the nature of the work as you would want to be before coming to any definite conclusion, but I am just wondering whether or not you would be willing to go should the opportunity come and it seemed that we could render the greatest service by going? I wish you would write me a long letter and tell me just what you think about the whole proposition.

I think we agreed a long time ago that we would not have as our chief aim

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BRANDS

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**AGRICULTURAL CHEMICALS**  
P. O. DRAWER M

*Houston, Texas*, March 6, 1912.  
4 pm.

JAMES D. DAWSON, PRESIDENT.  
GEO. O. HASKELL, VICE PRESIDENT.  
R. F. ISBELL, SECRETARY & TREASURER.

Boy dear:

Whats the matter, boy, I havent had a letter from you since Monday and this is Wednesday evening. You are treating me real mean in the letter line here lately. You don't write half as many as you should. Are you feeling bad, or working too hard, or do you just forget your girlie? It would be a pretty bad case either way, so I just hope it is neither.

My eyes have been bothering me for the last few days and I expect I will have to get the lenses changed. Guess I will go down Saturday. Cousin Eva G. went almost blind the other day and had to have her eyes treated and is now wearing glasses. I think this weather has a great deal to do with people feeling so good for nothing. I will be glad when the work slacks up so we can be really lazy. Write me a nice letter boydear, I need it.

Yours ever and ever,

*Alma -*

*23 - 6 -*

# Young Men's Christian Association

## Officers

Wm. A. Wilson President  
 Wm. D. Cleveland, Jr. Vice President  
 H. L. Mitchell Treasurer  
 H. C. Breaker Recording Secretary  
 S. F. Carter Treasurer Building Fund  
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A. J. Condit	E. W. Taylor
J. V. Dealy	J. L. Thompson

Wm. A. Wilson

March 9 1912

Mr Kirby Page

Drake University

Des Moines Iowa

My dear Kirby:-

You will recall my having recently simply acknowledged receipt of your letter and saying that I would write you soon, but there was no chance to go over that matter until yesterday.

I shall be glad to have you come down as soon as you can get away from school and spend the summer with us, and will pay you what you were getting when you left, \$85.00. Some one will be away more or less during the summer on vacation, and you can fill in very nicely wherever the need may arise. Please let me know if that will be satisfactory.

Mr Godfrey is still very poorly and has gone down to Rollover for the salt air and a week's rest. Herbert is also at home with the grippe. Mr Younts is about his work, but also ought to be at home. The doctors say there was never so much grippe here, and it was never so severe on those having it. Things at home are about the same.

With love and hoping to hear from you soon, I am

Sincerely yours

*IEM/MLM*  
*I. E. Munger*

O.S. Your long letter just rec'd. Not time just now to answer it, been to Galveston twice this week. Glad to get your letter & the tip, just

2/6/12

my dearest little wife:-

It is now midnight and I am not through with my days work: I am mighty anxious for the time to come when I can have you to cheer me up after the days hard grind. It surely will make a difference.

Everything went off in "apple pie" order Sunday night. We had a large crowd, between 1500 & 2000, and everything went off without a hitch. I felt perfectly at home on the platform before that large audience.

I would give most  
anything I have to be  
able to have you kiss  
me good night before I  
go to sleep now. I

love you sweetheart and  
am thinking of you all  
the time. Won't we be  
happy together though?

Good night my own  
baby dear.

Lovingly your boy

Kirby.

Last night I was the "preacher" at a mock wedding given at the Freshman social, and we had a great old time of it. I know you would have enjoyed yourself immensely if you could have been here. Never you mind though it won't be long now until I am home. Just think, it was five months ago tonight that I kissed-

you good bye. I hope I won't  
ever have to do that again,  
knowing that I will be gone for  
a year. Don't you?

I had some post card pictures  
made, but they were so rotten that  
I did not send you one. As  
soon as I can get time I  
will try it again.

my  
cartoonist

my  
violinist

FIDELITY  
BRANDS

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JAMES D. DAWSON, PRESIDENT.  
GEO. O. HASKELL, VICE PRESIDENT.  
R. F. ISBELL, SECRETARY & TREASURER.

*Houston, Texas,* February 7, 1912

Dearest boy of mine.

I have just been having the dickens of a busy time for quite a while and it seems that I don't get a minute to spare, however, I am planning to swipe Saturday afternoon off and go to the house of the Sunday School Teacher for the evening. Our fertilizer season is on us now in full force and everybody wants things at once, and the material gives out and shipments arrive late and we can't get adequate switching service and everything goes to make just a little bit more work for Mr. Isbell and myself trying to tell the people that we have so much business that we get behind and have to work night and day to catch up, and what not and some more.

Dick went to the blacksmiths yesterday to get some more new shoes and the blacksmith or somebody got to cutting up with him or at least all I know is that he came back with a gash on his left knee in the back, right where it bends, and it took me over half an hour to get him home, and I had to leave him there and he is now just about as stiff in that knee as he can possibly be. The poor little fellow is very good and lets us doctor it without cutting up any at all, and looks on to see what is being done. Tell you what, it sure does put me out to have to ride on the cars again for a while. Don't know how long, but hope not very long, as payday don't come until

J. A. T. PAGE, M. D.  
BAILEYVILLE, TEXAS.

Feb. 7th 1912.

Mr. & Mrs. Kirby Page,

Demarest, Iowa

Dear Kirby,

I rec'd. your letter a month ago, and was glad to hear from you, and especially glad that you were getting along so well in your studies. I would have written you sooner, but we have had a great deal of sickness, and I have been very busy. I had a letter from Leek a few days since. They were well and happy. I hear of them quite often. I am very uneasy about Perry. I fear he will go the downward road to dissipation and ruin. He seems to have the world lust fixed in his bones. He was at Leon's the last I heard from him. He has been getting off some wonderful "stunts" the past year. May Heaven's encircling arms be around him, and bring him back to the paths of rectitude and peace. May God bless you in all of your labors, and his grace be sufficient for you. Your loving father



CABLE ADDRESS "FIDELITY"  
USE A.B.C. CODES-4<sup>TH</sup> & 5<sup>TH</sup> EDITIONS.

# FIDELITY COTTON OIL & FERTILIZER CO.

COTTON SEED PRODUCTS  
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## HIGH GRADE COMMERCIAL FERTILIZERS

JAMES D. DAWSON, PRESIDENT  
GEO. O. HASKELL, VICE PRESIDENT  
R. F. ISBELL, SECY AND TREAS.

P.O. DRAWER M

HOUSTON, TEXAS, Feb 10. 1912.

Dear boy:

Am getting off today at noon and will go to a party given by the Sunday School teacher, Mrs. Jenkins. Sure did have a time getting off and have worked my head off to do so.

The Widow is still as unloveable as ever, if not more so. Someone told me yesterday that the heard I was going to quit working soon and Marry one of the D. boys. I don't know which one, but hope it was Val, as he is my favorite. Going some, with news, don't you think?

It is now twelve and I am going to get out of here just as quickly as I can, and won't come back until Monday.

Good night, or rather good bye until next time,

Yours,

*Alma.*

# LINCOLN AVENUE LUMBER CO.

INCORPORATED

DEALERS IN

## Rough and Dressed Lumber, Lime, Lath and Cement

Corner Lincoln Ave. and Atlanta St.

Pasadena, Cal., 2-11-1912.

191

Dear Kirby:-

Your good letter came couple of days ago..... You are certainly doing well and to be congratulated. Keep it up and get all the good you can out of everything. There are not many who could do as much the first year. You have our best wishes in your undertakings. It seems to me you are on the right track and if mother and your sweetheart come up next summer you will have all that your heart could desire.

Perry was with us one day and night two weeks ago. Dropped you a few lines from office; also mother. He went to catch 2:30 train, P.M., but missed it by 3 min. so came back and spent night with us. We talked, all three played dominoes, then I beat him in checkers. He regaled us with a thrilling recital of his escapades: has been going some. He looked pretty shabby so I had him wash up, shave, gave him sox, hdkfs., white collar, ties, shirt, coat, 65¢, seven 2¢ stamps, and bid him Godspeed. He borrowed a quarter to get out here on, not a penny in the world. Told me he sold all his clothes before leaving Houston to get a little money to exist upon. Played dominoes to get money to buy food and is quite a shark. Cheats right and left but is clever. He said only one fellow he could beat regularly so he cut out all the others to make it a sure go. Won \$6.50 at one sitting. He left Houston without a stitch except what he had on his back, no coat, only old sweater. Somebody gave him an old thing in Dallas but it was all to the bad. I did not believe in giving him a lot of money and could not spare anyway. When I tell you that not many months ago I was in debt \$500. you will understand what a close rub it has been. However, we have worked together and reduced this to \$150. so it looks as if we can see daylight ahead. He left the next morning to go on the next train to San Francisco but have not heard a word from him since. Do not know if he arrived or not. He stated while here that he intended to pay all his debts, you some \$80. or \$90., Uncle Leon \$10., and brace up in general. It is hard to say but I fear he will only fail to make good again. We cheered him up and he seemed to enjoy his stay immensely.

We have a little girl in the family now. She has been here just two weeks and is quite a delight to both of us. She is five years old and is boarding with us. Her mother is a widow and a business woman. Her name is Doris Tabbler. She calls us "Auntie" and "Uncle" and is quite affectionate. I put up a large swing, will erect trapeze bar, and play with her quite a bit.

# LINCOLN AVENUE LUMBER CO.

INCORPORATED

DEALERS IN

## Rough and Dressed Lumber, Lime, Lath and Cement

Corner Lincoln Ave. and Atlanta St.

Pasadena, Cal.,

191

She is a regular acrobat, very muscular and strong, and climbs up on my lap at night and I read to her, story books. She is a regular case, asks a thousand questions a day, I think she will get along all O.K. She says her prayers every night and often asks the blessing at the table. She is more or less of a bother but we will put up with it for a while until we get caught up financially.

I had a nice long letter from Mother yesterday and she writes very encouragingly. Seems to be in a better mood and not so care-worn at present. Think she will recover to a large extent her old time buoyancy since Perry is away.

Tatum is married and happy. Received a letter from him several days ago. Sawrie remembered us Christmas. Oscar is living in his new home which is a beauty and quite expensive. Writes that he is contemplating the incorporation of a large lumber business if the work suits him. Perry says he is putting \$40,000. into wholesale shoe business. Buckley at Houston. We half way expect Mamma and Sister out here to spend the summer with us; if her health permits.

I had a good cold for several days a week past but have about recovered from the effects today. Feel fine as ever and we are planning great times for this summer. Our place is keeping us busy as ever and we like it. Business is good, cleared \$550. last month after all expenses paid. Prospects fine and once out of debt things will seem right again. We will get there yet I believe.

That's the size of the pile this time. Norma joins me in greetings and best wishes. The report you made is to be commended, quite a good one and shows much care in the presentation. Must have made a good impression. We noted the programme you sent and see you were "it" for the evening. Fine occasion and good atmosphere, keep it up. The quartette are good lookers anyway; good fellows to run with. All your remembrances are appreciated.

Well, so-longsky. Good-lucksky! Adiosky!!

Your budsky,

*A. Leah*



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GEO. O. HASKELL, VICE PRESIDENT  
R. F. ISBELL, SECTY AND TREAS.

P.O. DRAWER M

HOUSTON, TEXAS, Feb. 13, 1912.

Dearest Boy:

My hand got all right last night and today I have been rip-roaring-and-a-flying. It just seems as if there is more work every day, and then some. I sure will be glad when this fertilizer season is over so I can get some rest and be blessedly lazy again, but such will be denied me for at least a month longer and the grind is getting harder every day, it seems, but I sure am putting the business through. I wrote fifty letters yesterday between three and six ten, and they were not all short ones either, and I had to be particular to get most of them to fit those new fandangled envelopes.

Received the pictures today. You don't mention yourself as being in the picture, but as you were the "Parson" I suppose it is safe to point you out with a skull cap sitting on your head and those beloved curly locks hidden by some long clerical locks, which don't look half as nice to me. Is Miss, so-and-so under the cross "Jack"? If it is he makes a good "Girl" (that is, on the picture)

We are going to have a Social, or Box Social at least,



ight and gets too thinking makes hammocks, ect. Believe it telling you how things me dulling and handling a bunch with me. Will go to Bilt & Bayonet - some heavy too barracks down below soon sure makes and develops a will write all the news. Norma are happy and looking fine too. hope you are doing well everything OK. Write me San <sup>Timber</sup> % U.S. Training Station. glad to hear from you. Good By now.

Your Bud  
P.L.P.

I smoke now, for a fellow sure gets lonesome and then it just helps a fellow feeling when he is all alone

1910

6.30 P.M.

W. S. Training Station,  
February 15, 1911.

Mr. Kirby Page,  
Des Moines, Iowa.

Dear Old Kirby:-

Have traveled quite a bit since I saw you last - So far I like the Navy fine - Had a very nice trip coming out stopped over and saw Leek for a night missed my train in Los Angeles so went over - Got here OK though. We are on an island here between Frisco & Oakland (boat Island) Some view believe me. We get up 6 o'clock - March (drill) 5 hours each day - wash our own clothes

U. S. Training Station,  
San Francisco, Cal.  
February 12-11

Dear Mother:-

am here on Goat Island at training station - stoped over 6 hours at Los Angeles - went over to see Lusk who to leave L.A. at 2 o'clock that monkey but I missed my train so went back over to Lusk's and stayed all night they are so happy and contented have a nice little home, chickens flowers, rabbits, lawn - cat nest ect. was in Dallas 6 days but we finally got off via, El Paso ect. am here at training station have been for 2 weeks - we get up 6 o'clock drill 2 hours morning and 2 every afternoon wash our own clothes - make beds - ect - ect.

am in Company 6 - 2<sup>nd</sup> section also today was put in charge of squad No. 7 - eight fellows in it. am writing on my knee - write me here % U. S. Training Station.

Hope you are well and every thing OK will write all later - B, By with love  
your boy Perry.

8<sup>00</sup> P.M.

ALFRED E. MARLING, CHAIRMAN  
WILLIAM SLOANE, VICE-CHAIRMAN

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OF YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS

124 EAST 28TH STREET, NEW YORK

RICHARD C. MORSE, GENERAL SECRETARY  
FREDERICK B. SCHENCK, TREASURER

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CABLE ADDRESS  
FLAMINGO, NEW YORK

OFFICE OF WESTERN SECRETARY, CITY NATIONAL BANK BUILDING, KANKAKEE, ILL.

February  
Fifteen  
1 9 1 2.

Mr. Kirby Page,  
Drake University,  
Des Moines, Iowa.

Dear Mr. Page:-

Your letter of Feb. 16th relative to printed matter  
for the Student Conference received.

A full supply of printed matter concerning Lake Geneva  
will be in the hands of Mr. G. V. Aldrich within a few days and  
you can then get it direct from him.

Sincerely yours,

For Mr. Elliott,

*T. G. Ketcham,*



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R. F. ISBELL, SECY AND TREAS.

P.O. DRAWER M

HOUSTON, TEXAS, February 16, 1912.

My dear boy:

Well, I went to that box social last evening, and I wore my pretty white dress that mother made for the carnival and Mr. Johnson wanted to run away with me but Gertrude wouldn't let him. There is this much, though, I am just simply tired of running about by myself and having to be an object for charity when it comes to getting home. I am going to quit Endeavor because there are no boys and you can't depend on the girls. Anna promised Sunday that she would sure go, but she is on the social committee and something or other didn't go to please her and she backed out at the last minute, and left me alone. I went by for her and she did not go, was not ready, neither did she have a box fixed, and I had offered to help her with that earlier in the day. Well, I was away from home and I would not go back but went on by myself, and fortunately met up with Mr. Chapman and then Bertha and Gertrude and Mr. Johnson came along and we all finished our journey. Of course, I had a nice time after I got there, but it was the same old crowd with about seven extra girls and all married men and the others as good as married, or too stingy to help out any. I am going to wait until you come back and stay at home or go somewhere when I can get someone to go with. Mother thinks I ought to stay at home more anyway, and I think I will try it for a while. Then too, Mr. Pennock has started a church in the Heights which meets at 3 pm and I can help out with that some.

I fixed my own box last evening, all except the candy and cake, which mother made. Just the best candy you ever ate, and Chocolate cake. I think she must have been thinking you were going to be there, or at least thinking of you. I had three different kinds of sandwiches and made them all myself and they looked pretty and tasted just grand, and I was even complimented. Never mind, boy, I can cook and do a lot of things when it comes time, because there is something, judgement or whatever it may be that I don't have to learn. Its just born in me, and I will do a good ~~xx~~ job when it comes time.

Johnnie has gotten in a play to be given at the Prince Saturday night, "Slumberland" and of course I am glad she takes an interest in it, but someone has to go along to see that she gets home, and Of Course it means a seat for that person.

CARBON  
COPY  
RETAINED

I don't care to see it much and I think mother will go if she can get Mrs. Wiporecht or Mrs. Latchford or Cousin to go along. You just ought to see her now. She has condescended to accept a suit, ~~fixxew~~ A NEW SUIT from me, and she has a nice hat, and she has even made a silk waist and I gave her some pins and she can tog up and go wherever she pleases. -Provided she has the car fare.

Dickie is still crippled and it will probably be about two weeks or more before he will be worth riding. I sure will be able to appreciate him when he gets well, and I can assure you I never will send him to anything but the best blacksmith shop in Houston again. He is too good to be beat up, and is just as nice as can be about his sore leg. Just stands as nice and watches all doctoring done to see that it is done right and never cuts up a single bit, but seems to enjoy it. He just naturally loves to be petted and seems to expect it. Everyone falls in love with him, and I don't think I would have the least bit of trouble in selling him if I wanted to.

I must stop now and finish my work, so be a good boy and write a nice long letter to

Your girlie,

Alma -

**DRAKE UNIVERSITY**

DES MOINES, IOWA.

SHERMAN KIRK  
DEAN, COLLEGE OF THE BIBLE

February 17 1912

My own dearest Sweetheart:-

If I mistake not this will reach you on the date of our second engagement anniversary. I can remember the incidents of that Sunday evening almost as well as if it were yesterday. I remember that we went to Endeavor together and that Miss Pollock said that you ought to be ashamed of yourself for taking me away from the last session of the Laymen's Missionary Movement; and how after we reached home we lighted the little oil stove and sit down on the couch to have a good talk together; and how we talked of almost everything under the sun before we began to get serious and then how we gradually worked up to the all important question; and how I told you that I loved you, but was afraid to tell you so; and how we finally "made it definite"; and how you refused to let me kiss you, despite my earnest and eloquent pleading; and how I asked you just before telling you good-night at the door "if we were really engaged?". It seems to me as if I had gone over these incidents a thousand times since I have been here. The thoughts of you make me truer and more deeply resolved that I will make of myself the most

that I possibly can and be the man that you would like to have me be. Every night I thank God that you love me and pray Him that we may have a long, happy and useful life together, and I am confident that these prayers will be answered. I am so anxious for the time to come when I may have you with me all the time to study with me, to plan with me, to enjoy life with me - to make me happy.

The Gregory lectures were finished last night. We have had a great week of it and I will never look at the Bible in the light that I formerly did. I have a new and better idea of it than before and have more respect and reverence than ever before. I will tell you about it when I come home. I succeeded in getting full stenographic reports of all the afternoon lectures on the Bible. I have not finished transcribing them yet, but think I will have about 60 typewritten pages of very valuable matter. Incidentally I expect to sell enough of them to pay me for my time. Will give you particulars later. You can easily imagine that this is making me pretty busy - I took both of his lectures yesterday, three hours in all.

I am hoping that you are feeling good and are in the best of spirits on this day that will always be remembered by you and me.

Lovingly your boy

*Kirby*

*I love you baby dear.*

# Young Men's Christian Association

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Wm. A. Wilson

February 17 1912

Mr Kirby Page

Drake University

Des Moines Ia

My dear Kirby:-

I do not recall whether I owe you a letter, but that does not matter, and, besides, I have for some time thought of dropping you a line and sending you my last two reports which I will enclose with this.

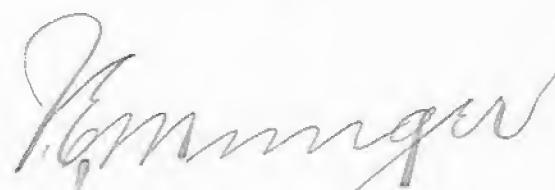
Your mother has been very kind to keep us informed about you and your work, and I was more than glad to know about your success with the young people's program. You know that I have always insisted that the outside work is just as important as the class room work, but you must be careful not to take too much of it and break down.

Father's general condition seems to be about the same. Your mother is taking the best of care of him. She is looking better than I have ever seen her, and is very cheerful and says she was never so well and her appetite never so good. When you come to Houston we want you to make our home your headquarters. I have two beds in my outdoor sleeping room and will reserve one for you, although there is another inside if you prefer to sleep in the house. Write when you can.

Cordially yours

Enclosures

IEM/MLM





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GEO. O. HASKELL, VICE PRESIDENT  
R. F. ISBELL, SECY AND TREAS.

P.O. DRAWER M

HOUSTON, TEXAS, February 21, 1912.

Dear Boy:

Yes, yesterday was our anniversary, and your letter came to hand promptly in the morning. It was good of you to be so thoughtful. I intended writing you yesterday again but the work just piled up so high that I decided to wait. It is much lighter today, but keeps coming in dribbles, however, it is still quite early.

We had a big fire here last night, or rather this morning. Almost the whole of the 5th ward burned, including three compresses, Dew Bros Syrup plant, a couple of rice mills, and about a hundred homes, more or less. The reason for so great a loss was the wind, which was about as strong as it could be without being a hurricane. We had a norther last night and the wind came along too, and just took up anything that happened to be in its way, no matter where nor what. I think it was about the strongest we have had this year, and you know we can have some pretty strong winds down here. The loss goes into the millions and doesn't stop at one or two either. There are about a hundred families who will have to seek shelter for tonight.



The fire spread so fast that people who moved their furniture out in the streets lost it because of inability to get it away. No one has been hurt as yet that I can learn, and everyone says that it is the cleanest looking place over there they ever saw. Looks like it was burned a year ago instead of last night. The wind is still pretty active and clears things up. The burned area is more than a mile long and several blocks across. It started at 12:30 am and burned until long after the sun rose, so you can imagine something of the loss.

There is the annual church and Sunday school social and report at the church tonight, but I am not going. I am going to keep my word and stay at home in the evenings.

Dickie is getting much better and I hope to be able to ride again next week, and I will be as happy as a lark then. Mother says she believes I love Dickie better than I do you, but she doesn't know.

They are ~~packing~~ putting down the curbing on the Boulevard on the West side and will soon begin paving. Dickie and I are sure going to cut that street open and make the dust fly when they get it finished, if they ever do. He is just the best pet that ever was. Mother has a hen setting and she is just the cutest thing ever, so is the puppy (I think I told you about her before, she is about six inches long).

Oh, boy, I wish you were here. Mark the days off faster.

Yours,

*Alma.*

FIDELITY  
BRANDS

# FIDELITY CHEMICAL CORPORATION

MANUFACTURERS OF  
**COMMERCIAL FERTILIZERS**  
IMPORTERS AND DEALERS IN  
**AGRICULTURAL CHEMICALS**

P.O. DRAWER M

*Houston, Texas*, February 23, 1912

JAMES D. DAWSON, PRESIDENT.  
GEO. O. HASKELL, VICE PRESIDENT.  
R. F. ISBELL, SECRETARY & TREASURER.

My dear boy:

I am pretty much tired out today. Have been working like a good fellow. The weather here doesn't know how to believe itself. It is almost freezing one day and the next it is too warm to wear a coat.

Dickie is still pretty much crippled and can't be used, and of course, I am still in a bad humor about it all. haven't seen any of the church folks since last thursday night and in fact, haven't seen anyone except the usual routine of people in the office and on the street cars.

Didn't get anything from you today but suppose it will come in tomorrow. Guess I get a little impatient and look for too many letters. You know I had much rather read a letter than write one.

Yours ever,

*Alma*

# Young Men's Christian Association

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J. V. Deal	J. L. Thompson
Wm. A. Wilson	

February 24 1912

Mr Kirby Page

Drake University

Des Moines Ia

My dear Kirby:-

I was very glad to get your letter today and am only writing this line to say that I will take up the matter about your work next summer and write you in a few days.

We are all about as usual.

Sincerely yours

I. E. Munger.

IEM/MLM

Dictated  
not read.

FIDELITY  
BRANDS

# FIDELITY CHEMICAL CORPORATION

MANUFACTURERS OF  
**COMMERCIAL FERTILIZERS**  
IMPORTERS AND DEALERS IN  
**AGRICULTURAL CHEMICALS**  
P. O. DRAWER M

JAMES D. DAWSON, PRESIDENT.  
GEO. O. HASKELL, VICE PRESIDENT.  
R. F. ISBELL, SECRETARY & TREASURER.

*Houston, Texas, February 26, 1912.*

My dear boy:

I guess I have neglected you long enough and had better put on my writing mood and rattle off a few lines to keep you from guessing if I am still alive. Well, I am, and very much so, but it don't make a bit of difference. I just keep on in the same old way all the time. Dick isn't quite well enough to be useful yet, but I did take him out a while Sunday morning and I think it did him good, but he limps quite too much to even try to trot and it is impossible to even imagine my trying to ride him at a walk all the time as I would loose more time than I would money. You wonder that I say this, but I don't mean that I have much money, only trying to show you HOW MUCH time I would lose. Why, I couldn't get to dinner in half the time I should and I might not get my share, and that would be awful.

Cleo and the baby were up yesterday and today but go home this evening, in fact I suppose they are almost there by this time, or at least well on the way. That kid of hers is just too cute to try to tell about. She is about as much of a case as My Great Big Curly Headed Youngster. and that is going some.

Yours ever,

*Alvord*

February 26 1912

Mr I E Munger

Young Men's Christian Association

Houston Texas

My dear Mr Munger:-

For the past several days it has been my privilege to be in attendance at the State Missionary Convention, held at Cornell College. There were a total of 165 delegates in attendance from 22 different colleges in the state, and the speakers on the program included such men and women as Arthur Rugh, International Secretary of the Young Men's Christian Association in China; Joseph Robbins and Philip Swartz, Student Volunteer Secretaries; Rev J E Shoemaker, of China; Mrs L D Garat, of Japan, Rev Titus Lowe, of India, Rev E A Rayner, of the Phillipines; and Leonard Paulson, at present State Boys' Work Secretary of Iowa, but who sails for India next September as International Secretary there.

In addition to the regular program of the conference there were many things from which we derived great good. It was a great privilege to meet and come to know personally some of the strongest men in the colleges. Taken as a whole, this was in some ways the most helpful conference I have ever been in, and in many ways I feel that I am just a little different fellow.

Mr Munger, I have a favor that I would like to ask of you, and in brief it is this: The present Student Secretary here informs me that he will not be here another year, and that the prospects are that the position of Student Secretary will be done away with after this year. The University authorities do not feel that they are justified in paying a man \$1,000 a year for this work, so they are thinking of doing away with the paid Secretary altogether. My thought is simply this, I have decided that I will go the president of the college and see if he would consider a compromise in the matter, that is secure someone for part time. I am not sure that I could handle the proposition as it ought to be handled, but I believe I could get better results than could be obtained by wholly volunteer service. At least it will do no harm to talk the matter over with the president and find out his attitude in regard to the matter. Now as to the favor, I would appreciate it very greatly if you would care to write to Hill McClelland Bell, president of Drake University, and tell him something of the experience I have had and anything further that you may see fit to say. Also, I would be glad if you would care to write to Mr Fellingham and Mr Parsons and ask them to use their influence for me. I am sure that these letters would aid me very materially if the president should see fit to consider the matter at all.

By the way, in a recent letter mother told me that she understood that Mr Brasted had given me certain letters of introduction and that I had never mentioned these in any of my letters to you. I am at a loss to understand this for I was sure that I had written you about these letters. Soon after coming here I present both of these letters and was very kindly received by both of the gentlemen, who assured me that they would be glad to do anything they possible could for me, and I was under the impression that I had so written you, and I am sorry that I was so careless as to forget to mention this to you. Please explain this to Mr Brasted, and extend to him my sincere thanks for his kindness in this matter, even if I am somewhat tardy in acknowledging it.

Remember me kindly to the folks at home and the fellows at the building, and hoping that you are in good health, I am

Yours cordially

DRAKE UNIVERSITY

DES MOINES, IOWA.

SHERMAN KIRK  
DEAN, COLLEGE OF THE BIBLE

February 26 1912

*Sweetness:*

When I returned from the State Missionary Conference today I found two letters from you, and I was mighty glad to get a chance to read them. They are the next best thing to seeing you, which is out of the question for a time. I greatly appreciated the copy of the Chronicle telling about the fire, as I was much interested in knowing the particulars of it. It certainly was a terrible thing, but may be a blessing in disguise, for "Bloody Fifth" surely was a dirty and filthy place.

The last two weeks have been among the most profitable thus far in my life. First came the Gregory lectures, and then the privilege of attending the Missionary Convention. This is by far the best conference or convention that I have ever had the privilege of attending. The speakers on the program included such people as Arthur Rugh, International Secretary of the Young Men's Christian Association in China; Joseph Robbins and Philip A Swartz, Student Volunteer Secretaries; Rev J E Shoemaker, of China; Mrs L D Garst, of Japan; Rev Titus Lowe, of India; and Leonard Paulson, at present State Boys' Work Secretary of Iowa, but who sails for India next September as an International Secretary of the Young Men's Christian

Association. All of these people made very instructive and inspirational addresses and produced a great impression upon those of us who were there.

In addition to the regular program of the conference there were many things from which we derived great good. It was a great privilege to meet and mingle with for several days scores and scores of college men from all over the state, some of the strongest men in our colleges and men who some of these days will be leaders in Christian activities. Then, the Drake bunch was as congenial a set of people as could be wished for and we had a great old time together.

When we arose at four o'clock this morning to catch an early train for home, we found that one of the most severe blizzards for years was in full force. Robert Thompson, Student Secretary at Drake, and myself had made an appointment with Gladys Allison and her friend Ethel Taylor to come by for them and carry their suitcases to the depot. So we had to hike out to another part of the city for them. The wind was blowing at a rate that was something fierce and the snow was so thick that you could not see very far ahead of you, and sometimes was drifted pretty badly. We finally found their place and soon started for the depot, about 4:30, Bob and I each lugging two suitcases. We had to face that gale from the north for over half a mile, through snow drifts, until

we felt like we pretty nearly frozen. Gladys fell down twice and my big feet got mixed up with something and down I went. Oh I tell you it was great fun. We finally reached the depot and were soon feeling like millionaires sons and daughters - our train was an hour and a half late to start with, and was more than that before we reached home on account of the snow drifts. Altogether we were four hour late in reaching home, but as we had a good congenial bunch we did not particularly care. We played games, gave Drake yells, played pranks on each other and had a great old time generally. We surely did get a good joke on the president of the Drake Student Association. It was this way: When the conductor came along for our tickets Taggart, the fellow on whom the joke was played, and I with two ladies were sitting together so we handed him all our tickets together and when he returned them after having punched them I put them in my pocket book. Later when the conductor came along again for the tickets, Taggart, having forgotten that all the tickets had been returned to me, could not find his ticket high or low. We made it up between ourselves that we would keep mum for a while and enjoy the fun. He turned all of his pockets inside out and took down his overcoat and looked through it very carefully, and still found no ticket. The conductor growing impatient said that he would be back in a little while. We were all very sympathetic and offered to help hunt for the missing ticket, and finally someone suggested that we take up a collection and buy another ticket - which we did, slipping the missing ticket in the hat just before it was passed to

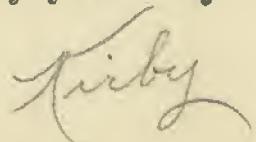
Taggart for his apportionment. I never saw a fellow look more foolish in my life than he did when he saw that ticket. It seemed is if everybody in that car would kill themselves laughing. It surely was funny.

I came in for my share of the fun, as may be seen by the enclosed original verses by various members of the party. You can not imagine all the silly things we did to kill time. One of the girls offered the remark that her hair needed combing, and when I volunteered to do the job she accepted and I proceeded to take her hair down, comb it, and then plat it, to the great amusement of the crowd. You might think from the nature of some of our pranks that it was a pretty silly bunch, but this was not the case, for in that group were several students who are studying and preparing themselves to go to the foreign fields, several preacher boys, and two Association men. It was all a lot of harmless fun and only served to show that a person to be a Christian does not have to be longfaced and always take a serious view of life. Altogether it was a great conference for me; I have new visions and ideals, deeper consecration and more intense desire to serve than I had before going there. My only regret is that you were unable to enjoy these things with me. You will know some day just how much things of this kind mean to a person and the great influence they have on one's after life.

I started this letter this afternoon but was unable to finish it, so I came back tonight in order to get it off. I do not believe I have ever seen a prettier night than we have here tonight. There is not a cloud in the heavens, the moon and stars are shining brightly, while the whole face of the earth is one shining mass of snow. It is a mighty pretty sight, I can assure you. I could not help but think of the difference in the weather this morning and now, and I could not help but think that this same thing is true in life. We are having a time in our life now that might be compared with the storm of the morning, and who knows but the time will soon come when everything will be as peaceful with us as is nature at this moment. So I am content to work and study hard and wait for the time to come when the storms have passed, when we may be together. Sweetheart, I have high ideals and ambitions for our lives and I am so anxious to have you with me to help carry out these ideals and ambitions.

Good night, sweeteast and dearest little girl in the world, and always keep in mind that we love each other and are going to help each other to do great things for humanity in our time. I love you, Alma darling.

Devotedly your baby dear



DRAKE UNIVERSITY

DES MOINES, IOWA.

SHERMAN KIRK  
DEAN, COLLEGE OF THE BIBLE

February 26 1912

My dearest Mother:-

When I returned today from the State Missionary Conference, at Cornell College, to which I had been sent as a delegate with expenses paid, I found your letter enclosing the one from Perry, and also a letter from Perry himself, and two letters from Alma. It was almost like getting home again to get to read those letters. Alma sent me a copy of the Chronicle telling about the big fire. It certainly was a terrible thing, but it may turn out to be a blessing in disguise, for "Bloody Fifth" surely was a dirty and filthy old place.

The last two weeks have been among the most profitable thus far in my life. First came the Gregory lectures, and then

the privilege of attending the Missionary Convention. This is by far the best conference or convention that I have ever had the privilege of attending. The speakers on the program included such people as Arthur Rugh, International Secretary of the Young Men's Christian Association in China; Joseph Robbins and Philip A Swartz, Student Volunteer Secretaries; Rev J E Shoemaker, of China; Mrs L D Garst, of Japan; Rev Titus Lowe,

of India; and Leonard Paulson, at present State Boys' Work Secretary of Iowa, but who sails for India next September as an International Secretary of the Young Men's Christian Association. All of these people made very instructive and inspirational addresses and produced a great impression upon those of us who were there.

In addition to the regular program of the conference there were many things from which we derived great good. It was a great privilege to meet and mingle with for several days scores and scores of college men, who some of these days will be leaders in Christian activities. Then, the Drake bunch was as congenial a set of people as could be wished for and we had a great old time together. Altogether there were 165 delegates present from 22 different colleges in Iowa, 16 of whom were from Drake University.

When we arose at four o'clock this morning to catch an early train for home, we found that one of the most severe blizzards for years was in full force. Robert Thompson, Student Secretary at Drake, and myself had made an appointment with Gladys Allison and her friend to come by for them and carry their suitcases to the depot. So we had to hike out to another part of the city for them. The wind was blowing at a rate that was something fierce and the snow was so thick that you could not see very far ahead of you, and sometimes was badly drifted. We finally found their place and soon started for the depot, about 4:30 in the morning, Bob and I each lugging two suitcases. We had to face that gale from

is true in life. We are having a time in our life now that might be compared with the storm of the morning, and who knows but that the time will come when everything will be as peaceful with us as is nature at this moment. So I am content to work and study hard and wait for the time to come when everything will be at peace in our life. I am fully convinced that if one really comes to be a close friend to Jesus and has confidence in Him and in His promises, that nothing can cause him to be really unhappy. Some of our troubles are physical troubles but most of them are mental difficulties, and to a very great degree it is only a question of the way in which we look at things. For this reason I am very glad that you are so cheerful. I know that you have bitter moments and times when you are so lonely that you can hardly stand it, but by appearing to be cheerful you soon come to feel really cheerful. At least, that is the way it works out with me.

I thank God nightly that he gave me such a mother as you are and always have been, and pray that He will watch over and protect you and be a comfort to you. Good night mother dear, and remember that I love you, although I am not always as considerate of you as I should be.

Lovingly yours

*Kirby*

February 26 1912

My dear old Perry Boy:-

I was mighty glad to get that letter you wrote me on the 15th, although I am unable to account for the reason why it did not reach me until today. I am greatly interested in the things you have to say and hope that things will go along smoothly with you. You are right, that drilling and handling of a gun will do you a world of good physically. Stay with it and do your work conscientiously and you will come out with flying colors. If you feel that smoking will help you any get you an old pipe and puff away on it to your hearts content, as far as I am concerned. I am not so narrow as to say that it is a sin to smoke, but I do know that cigarettes are injurious to a fellow and for that reason you ought to leave them alone. They will get your wind some of these days if you stay by them long enough, so it would be my advice to confine yourself to a pipe, with an occasional cigar.

There is a great deal in that thinking business you mention. If a guy has sense enough to sit down occasionally and do some real thinking he will come out all right. It is the fellow that goes through life without doing any real thinking that gets into trouble. So you get off by yourself as often as

you can and just think - think of your past life, think of the things before you in the future, think of mother, think of God, and after one of these thinking spells if you have anything on your heart that you think I could help you out with, write me the details and I will be glad to help you out if I can. Don't allow yourself to drift away from the church - go when you get a chance - join the Naval Y M C A when you have a chance - and just take time to think, and you will come out all right.

Things are going along with me in great shape. Am awful busy. Have just returned from a conference at Cornell College (State Missionary Conference). I had a mighty helpful and delightful time. I was sent as a delegate, expenses paid. Expect to get home about the middle of June - gee I'll be glad to get back there again, with Alma and mother.

Write me as often as you can, old fellow. I enjoy your letters and hope that you will send them real often. Remember old boy, that I love you, although we have not always shown it by our actions.

Your brother



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R. F. ISBELL, SECTY AND TREAS.

P.O. DRAWER M

HOUSTON, TEXAS, February 29, 1912.  
5 pm.

My dear boy:

Well, I am going to knock off early today and go home and eat some. This is payday and I took over two hours for dinner and have already written 72 letter. What do you think of that? I wrote about 53 for Mr. Isbell, a few of which I had taken dictation for yesterday, and the balance today, and the rest were some circul- lars for old man Guilmartin, but which had to be all original. and they were about a page double space. Just a nice looking letter. Mr. I said he would have to put some brakes on me to keep me from going too fast.

By the way, Mr. Isbell got touched for three dollars at the Y.M. some time this week, Tuesday night I think. He said it was a man at the desk whom he suspects. He did not report it but said he was going to lay a trap for the fellow. The way it ~~was~~ happened was this way., He went to the desk to leave his purse and the fellow was very nice and polite to him shaking hands and wrote Mr. Isbells name on the envelope for him, and see, if he had wanted to tear that envelope up and write another the writing was still his. The purse was folded just as nice and left like it had never been touched. He described him as being about 25



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**AGRICULTURAL CHEMICALS**  
P. O. DRAWER M

*Houston, Texas.* January 29, 1912

Dearest boy of mine:

Well, I really did get to go to Endeavor last evening, but had to stay at home in the morning on account of another nice shower or rather day of rain. The good Lord sure doesn't intend for us to get very dry down here, from the way he sprinkles the streets for us. It is just simply awful, still, I guess He knows what is best.

I am going to write you a real letter some of these days and just see how much I can write. Can't say when that will be, though, just whenever I happen to open my heart and get a good spell.

Do you ever participate in any more social gayeties? You never speak of any more. I really get to go so little that I hardly know how to behave myself when I do get a chance. You can just bet on it that we will go some and then some when you get back, even if we have to walk every step of the way to every place we go. See?

With much love, I am,

Yours ever,

*Alma.*



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P.O. DRAWER M

HOUSTON, TEXAS, January 31, 1912.

Dearest boy of mine:

Well, this was another pay day and I went down town and gave all my money away. What do you think of that? Liberal don't you think? But not so. I just gave it to people I owed it to.

I also bought me a new hat, and it just suits my new suit and, well, you just ought to see me. The boys are threatening to run away with me, so you had better look out. I haven't done very much work today, and still I have worked hard all the evening, too. I didn't ride today as I wanted to go to town and also to wear my suit, and you see the suit don't quite agree with a saddle arrangement or much or any kind of an arrangement except a hobble. Never mind, though, It is all right and you need not laugh, because everyone thinks it looks just fine.

Yours ever,

Alma.

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CAPITAL \$ 600,000.00  
COMMERCIAL BANK BUILDING  
HOUSTON, TEXAS

January 31, 1912.

Mr. Kirby Page,  
c/o Drake University,  
Des Moines, Iowa.

Dear Kirby:--

I have before me your long newsy letter dated September 14th and a shorter one dated January 11th.

You have found out before now that I am a very poor correspondent, not that I do not enjoy exceedingly receiving letters from my friends, but after the grind of the day it is a difficult task for me to attempt any sort of a reply. As a result of this I have lost tract of many good warm friends like Jacob Reese and others of less prominence. However, I want to keep in touch with you and hope you will find it in your soul to send me a line from time to time even though I am dilatory in my reply.

I cannot tell you how delighted I am at the way the opportunities are throwing themselves in front of you in your new work. It would certainly seem that things are coming your way thick and fast, but I am not surprised for I have always had a great deal of confidence in a young man with curly hair, who fell desperately in love with a young lady not far away. By the way, the other Sunday morning in returning from church we met a very stylish looking woman riding on horse back and after she had bowed very pleasantly we realized that she will some day change her name to Mrs. Page. *She has never opened her savings ac*

I see your mother quite frequently at the Mungers and have reasons to believe that she is very pleasantly located and the Mungers have nothing but words of praise for the excellent way she has fit into the situation there.

All of this talk you are giving me about being President of the largest Christian Endeavor Society in the world sounds mighty good when I think back over three or four years and remember how utterly impossible it was for you to store your hands on occasions that would not cause a sudden rush of blood to the head anything like the engineering a society of that kind before such an august body as the official board of the University Place Church.



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JAMES D. DAWSON, PRESIDENT  
GEO. O. HASKELL, VICE PRESIDENT  
R. F. ISBELL, SECRETARY AND TREAS.

HOUSTON, TEXAS, February 3, 1912.

My own dear boy:

Your letter received in which you say you don't find enough of the real ME. I don't know what is the matter with me now, but I am just getting so good-for-nothing that you wouldn't know me at all. I am just simply not a bit of company more.

In regard to our future plans, there is plenty of time for such after you come back, but I think it would be best to wait until just before you leave for school, and then we will not be worried with losing any time and spending any money foolishly on a Honeymoon, and in that way we would not be cut out of having one either. See? We might just simply announce a plain church wedding, as everyone knows we can't do society.

I just never felt so lonesome in all my life as I do this evening. I feel rather blue, but I don't know what on earth should cause such a feeling. I guess it is because I AM lonesome, and I wish to goodness you would hurry and strike out the rest of the time between now and closing of school. I just want my boy. There is no one at all I can paddle and boss around down here now and I am just simply lost without you.

Yours ever,

*Alma,*

DRAKE UNIVERSITY

DES MOINES, IOWA.

SHERMAN KIRK  
DEAN, COLLEGE OF THE BIBLE

February 3 1912

My dear Mother:-

Received a letter yesterday from Perry, written at Pasadena. I suppose that he wrote you at the same time. He says that he is well and having a good time and that he will write again when he gets to Frisco. I am glad that he had a chance to run out and see Leak for a few hours.

Bellmont sent me a copy of his monthly report, which I was glad to get, as I am interested in what is being done in Heavenly Houston. Incidentally, it is not such an awful long time until I will be back where I can drink bayou water to my heart's content. Won't that be fine - I mean the being back.

Everything is about the same with me and I have very little news that is worth telling. Am still busy with the plans for the meeting tomorrow and the other things that I am trying to do. May get reckless some of these days and write you another real letter, but in the meantime don't forget that I am happy and that I love you.

Affectionately your boy

*Kirby*

UNIVERSITY CHURCH OF CHRIST

Des Moines Iowa

Charles S Medbury - Minister

February 5 1912

Mr Kirby Page

City

My dear Kirby:-

I can not withhold a word this Monday morning with reference to our program of last night. It was such a very great pleasure and gratification to me and I feel that much of the success of the evening is really to be credited to you. I want to thank you personally for the life you put into the work and to express my appreciation further of the manliness of your service before the Church and the world. I am confident your earnest service is to the pleasure of our Lord Himself and I am sure He has in store for you, years of fruitfulness and true prosperity.

Bespeaking for you all good things,

Cordially and gratefully your brother

(Signed)

Charles S Medbury

UNIVERSITY  
CHURCH OF CHRIST  
TWENTY-FIFTH AND UNIVERSITY AVENUE  
CHARLES S. MEDBURY, MINISTER  
1078 TWENTY-THIRD STREET

DES MOINES, IOWA.

February 5, 1912.

Mr. Kirby Page,

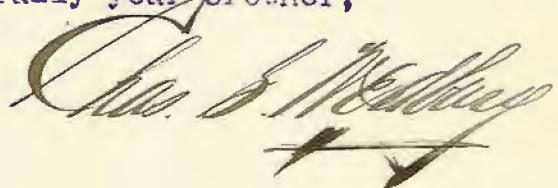
City.

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Bespeaking for you all good things,

Cordially and gratefully your brother,



UNIVERSITY CHURCH OF CHRIST

Des Moines Iowa

Charles S Medbury - Minister

February 5 1913

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City

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Bespeaking for you all good things.

Cordially and gratefully your brother

(Signed)

Charles S Medbury

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The National Board of Christian Endeavor  
...of...  
The Disciples of Christ

OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL SUPERINTENDENT

VALPARAISO, INDIANA. Feb. 5, 1912.

Rev: Chas. . Medbury,  
1079 23d St.,  
Des Moines, Iowa.

Dear Brother Medbury:

We have received draft for \$20 from your secretary  
of the Endeavor Society of the University Place Church. This  
✓ is the largest offering we have received from any society  
this far and we thank you very sincerely for it. Please  
express our thanks to the Young People. Receipts from  
Endeavor day are coming in splendidly, and for the first time  
we are going to have some money with which to prosecute our  
work. Again thanking you I am,

Your Brother,

COH

*Claude E. Hill*



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JAMES D. DAWSON, PRESIDENT  
GEO. O. HASKELL, VICE PRESIDENT  
R. F. ISBELL, SECRETARY AND TREAS.

HOUSTON, TEXAS, February 5, 1912.

Dearest Boy:

The Thermometer was way up to the sun here Saturday and yesterday and today we just like to froze to death. I did manage to go to Sunday School and Endeavor, though, and Mr. G. P. Pittman was good enough to be at Endeavor and he put me on the Heights car and left me in the care of Miss Green and Mr. Chapman and the rest of the Heights crowd. Pitt looked like the same old Pitt, but I wasn't satisfied. I don't like him like I used to. I guess I am too hard to please, so you had better consider yourself a lucky cuss' to be able to please me at all. I am getting so that I can enjoy myself real nicely just running around with the girls, and the only thing that ever bothers me is getting home.

Now, I am going to tell you some news, but please don't explode. I don't suppose you have heard this before, but nevertheless it will be interesting. It concerns a young lady named Miss Ivy Eicke, and is to the effect that she is going, with her mother, to California, some time this week, I think. At least that is what is, or was, rumored around yesterday. Now what the thunder does Oscar mean by letting her go off there when he knows it will be so much easier for her to get in touch with Perry. To tell you the truth, I can't understand such people. They are beyond me.

I saw Lee Morris yesterday evening, and he is just back from a trip to Navasota, where he has been visiting my cousins, and he thinks he is dead in love with Corinne, the one that was down here last summer with that pretty little girl who was so shocked at how we acted and who liked to hear you preach about dancing. Lee said he sure was going to work hard and had cut out his bad habits and all that. Poor kid thinks he is sure enough in love. Well, heres luck to them both.

And heres a kiss and a prayer for my boy.  
Yours ever

Alma.



February 6 1911

Mr Charles S Medbury  
University Church of Christ  
Des Moines Iowa

Dear Brother Medbury:-

The very kind words contained in your letter that came this morning were greatly appreciated and I wish to thank you for them. I consider myself highly honored and privileged in having been able to have a part in the services of last Sunday evening, and feel that personally I received a very great deal from the occasion.

As leader of Loyalty Endeavor, I wish to extend to you our sincere thanks for the opportunity afforded us to present our work before the church, and to pledge you our loyal support at any time you may see fit to call upon us for assistance.

Again thanking you for your kind words and good wishes,  
I am

Yours very cordially

Charles S Medbury

(Signed)

Gordially and gratefully your brother

Bespeaking for you all good things,

prosperity.

sure He has laid store for you, years of fruitfulness and true  
earnest service is to the pleasure of our Lord Himself and I am  
service before the Church and the world. I am confident your  
and to express my appreciation further of the manifoldness of your  
want to thank you personally for the life you put into the work  
the success of the evening is really to be credited to you. I  
great pleasure and gratification to me and I feel that much of  
reference to our program of last night. It was such a very  
I can not withhold a word this Monday morning with

My dear Kirby:-

City

Mr Kirby Page

February 5 1912

Charles S Medbury - Minister

Des Moines Iowa

UNIVERSITY CHURCH OF CHRIST

FIDELITY  
BRANDS

# FIDELITY CHEMICAL CORPORATION

MANUFACTURERS OF  
**COMMERCIAL FERTILIZERS**  
IMPORTERS AND DEALERS IN  
**AGRICULTURAL CHEMICALS**

P. O. DRAWER M

*Houston, Texas.* January 8, 1912.

JAMES D. DAWSON, PRESIDENT.  
GEO. O. HASKELL, VICE PRESIDENT.  
R. F. ISBELL, SECRETARY & TREASURER.

My own dear boy:

Nothing from you today. Cant grumble though as i got your "NOTE" on Saturday morning, and nothing is hardly due as yet.

It sure is a good thing you are not here now as you and mother sure would fall out about all this mud. (?) Catch the drift? It rains down here. It stopped again today and has proceeded to get somewhat colder. We sure are having a hail columbia happy time. just splash and swim anywhere we want to. Could almost have skated yesterday morning and last night it all melted and some more rain come. I thought about you and your number 11's running around in all that mud and what a lot you would carry around with you.

The Industrial Cotton Oil Company burned plum smack to the ground Saturday and it looked for a while as if we would go to, but the wind was favourable to us and we got off. If the wind had been blowing just a little more south west instead of south east it would have taken about everything in Cheneyville, me included.

Hope I get that long promised "letter" tomorrow.

Yours most lovingly,

*Alma.*

FIDELITY  
BRANDS

# FIDELITY CHEMICAL CORPORATION

MANUFACTURERS OF  
**COMMERCIAL FERTILIZERS**  
IMPORTERS AND DEALERS IN  
**AGRICULTURAL CHEMICALS**  
P.O. DRAWER M

*Houston, Texas.* January 12, 1912.

JAMES D. DAWSON, PRESIDENT.  
GEO. O. HASKELL, VICE PRESIDENT.  
R. F. ISBELL, SECRETARY & TREASURER.

Sweetheart:

We are just having the dickens of a time down here now. yesterday it was hot enough to go around with one sleeve on and the thermometer registered 72 and at eleven o'clock today it was 15 with two tenths of an inch of snow, and wind, ---well it was going some. Some quick change and we all felt it. I didn't ride Dick today because mother was afraid he might freeze, but just as sure as I get a chance I am going to ride him tomorrow. If I don't get to ride some I sure will not get to go to Sunday School Sunday because I am dead broke and payday don't come until monday. If ever this company gives us our pay day ahead of time again while I am here, I sure will smash the head of the man that made the mothin. And I mean it too.

Talk about your pretty things. well that suit of mine is just the prettiest ever. I fitted it for the last time yesterday and it fits like a glove from top to bottom. I hope you will like it.

We haven't done much work today except hug the radiators. In fact, it was so cold this morning that we were tempted to hug each other.- and It was all I could do to keep the boys from sitting on the radiators. Silas put a hot brick in the buggy to keep warm and it started things to burning and they sure did have a time. With lots and lots of love,

*Alma*

DRAKE UNIVERSITY

DES MOINES, IOWA.

SHERMAN KIRK  
DEAN, COLLEGE OF THE BIBLE

January 15 1912

— — — — —

I am getting more and more interested in Loyalty as the days and weeks go by, and am getting more pleasure and help out of my work in that connection than I ever have out of anything before. It takes quite a lot of time that is very valuable to me just now, but I feel that I am accomplishing something with it and feel that it is more than worth all the efforts put forth. The Endeavors are to have charge of the Sunday evening service in the big church on February 4th, which means that I will have to give even more time and thought to it than ever, for this is going to a big thing, as this is by far the largest church in Iowa. I suppose I will have a part on the program, which ought to mean something to me personally, and the meeting ought to give us a boost that will help us a lot in our work. I am feeling mighty good over the prospects for the future of the work. It is my ambition to place Loyalty on the very best footing it has ever been and to place it in the very forefront of societies in America. My how I wish you might be here with me - wouldn't we do things together though.

I certainly did laugh at that two-tenths of an inch of snow. You ought to be up here where everything is covered with snow, and has been for weeks and weeks and will be for several months yet. I am told that there is snow on the ground here until along in May. Of course, a person soon gets use to it and really enjoys it.

I really have nothing very exciting to tell, as my work is somewhat the same each week, but I am well, busy, and happy, and strange to say, am behaving myself. Say, wouldn't it be a good thing for you to get out my old letters and take a day off sometime and answer the various questions that I have been asking that you have never mentioned in any of your letters. See?

I only wish I were in Houston - I would see that you didn't get cold. With lots of love to my pretty little sweetheart and wife to be, I am

Most affectionately yours

Kirby

mother mentioned your letter and said she appreciated it very much. You are a mighty thoughtful little lady, and I love you for it.

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# FIDELITY COTTON OIL & FERTILIZER CO.

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FOR DOMESTIC AND EXPORT TRADE

## HIGH GRADE COMMERCIAL FERTILIZERS

P.O. DRAWER M

HOUSTON, TEXAS, January 15, 1912.

JAMES D. DAWSON, PRESIDENT  
GEO. O. HASKELL, VICE PRESIDENT  
R. F. ISBELL, SECRETARY AND TREAS.

Sweetheart:

Well, this is another old payday, and I am glad it is almost over. I can't do without it and I can't do with it. So there you are. At least, it is hard work just at present, although daddy has been at work, as tomorrow will be his first pay day since he went back. It seems as if everything ever owed or that has to be paid in all the year has to be paid this month. It is a hard push with us and me been working hard all the time and I don't know what the strikers who are still out are doing, and I don't care. If they are big enough fools to stay out they ought to have something to bring them to their senses.

I didn't go to Sunday School yesterday as I had to stay home and wash my head. It was just about to run me crazy, and I thought I would profit more by washing it than I would by letting it go. I did think I would get to go to Endeavor, but didn't even get to go there. However, I did get to ride Dick for about an hour, and that did me a lot of good. People still stare at me and some forget to shut their mouths when I pass, and, Oh, I just see a lot and have a lot of fun watching the people that watch me. You just ought to see the different kinds of expressions on the different faces. Some of them admire, some scoff and scorn, some wonder, some (men) try to flirt, some boys yell at me, and some don't know how to look. Dick and I don't give a snap for any ~~one~~ of them, because we KNOW we look all right and would make a fine picture and Do make a fine picture. And MOST of the people think so.

Boy dear, I do get so lonesome on sundays that I just don't know what to do. I can't get anyone to go with me, even if it is Leap Year. I guess I am ~~too~~ sour and not ~~enough~~ bold enough. Never mind, though, I'll have someone some of these days.

Saw Vick today on the car. Just had a chance to say a word or two. He says tell you hello for him. He looked just as mischievous as ever, and I believe he looks several years younger. What's happened to him? He positively looked like a little kid. Still has that smile that won't come off.

He can't compare with my boy, though. Can he?

Yours ever, *Alma*

FIDELITY  
BRANDS

# FIDELITY CHEMICAL CORPORATION

MANUFACTURERS OF  
**COMMERCIAL FERTILIZERS**  
IMPORTERS AND DEALERS IN  
**AGRICULTURAL CHEMICALS**  
P. O. DRAWER M

*Houston, Texas.* January 16, 1912.

JAMES D. DAWSON, PRESIDENT.  
GEO. O. HASKELL, VICE PRESIDENT.  
R. F. ISBELL, SECRETARY & TREASURER.

Dearest of mine:

Had a pretty good day today. Been just as busy as can be all evening but not much to do this morn. feeling fine.

Say, mother says that if you do become a preacher you had better stay away from Texas as someone tried to shoot a preacher at Ft. Worth Sunday night, through a stained glass window of his church study, too. What do you think of that.

Really, dear, the more I think of it, the more I think that you are not cut out for a preacher as much as you are for a YMCA man. I don't know why, but I can't imagine you as a preacher at all. I suppose it must be a woman's intuition. I just simply can't reconcile myself to the idea.

Jimmy D. Sr. just flatfootedly refused to give me any more money not long ago. I am going to tackle him with another proposition the first chance I get. I have just got to get some more money or I will not have a cent by the time I need it worst. I wish those old union men were all in Hellena Montana or somewhere besides fussing and spluttering around here. Really, I don't see how mother is going to get along after I am gone. I pay the light and water bill now and also the insurance, which is no more than right, but still daddy doesn't pay a bloomin thing except the grocery bill and a few little incidentals. He doesn't even buy mother any clothes. If I were going to be a man, I sure would be a MAN and not an excuse of one. I don't see how some people can be so really insignificant and not know it and not have any ambition or try to do better. However, I think I must have enough to make up for all the rest. I can only hope and trust and pray that things will come out all right. That is all either of us can do now, after we do our part.

Yours ever lovingly,

*Alma.*

# Young Men's Christian Association

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 Wm. D. Cleveland, Jr. Vice President  
 H. L. Mitchell Treasurer  
 H. C. Breaker Recording Secretary  
 S. F. Carter Treasurer Building Fund  
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Wm. D. Cleveland, Jr	J. M. Rockwell
A. J. Condit	E. W. Taylor
J. V. Dealy	J. L. Thompson

Wm. A. Wilson

January 18 1912

Mr Kirby Page

Drake University

Des Moines Iowa

My dear Kirby:-

Your letter of the 15th instant enclosing a copy of the letter to Mr McGill has just come and I thank you. It is just what I thought you would do and what I thought you ought to do. I have not heard from Mr McGill since writing you.

I appreciated your other good letter and the kind words so much, but could not read it or pass it around to the Force because you said too many nice things that were not deserved. Nevertheless, one likes to hear words of appreciation once in a while. Your report of the Christian Endeavor work was splendid, and I passed that around.

1 Your mother is a perfect Godsend to us, and is doing well and seems to be very happy in her work so far as she could be happy under the conditions that prevail. She is certainly far more cheerful than I ever saw her. She is so good to Father, - strong, wise, gentle, patient and tactful; and she is a wonderful help to Mother. Your usual letter had not come this week when I left, and if you knew how she absolutely lives on letters from you and Leake you would not fail to get them to her regularly. They seem to be the only thing she lives for. She worries a little once in a while, but will always do that, as you know.

2 Mr and Mrs Douglass have for some time been wanting her to let them have another room, which I think she ought to do because she hardly goes home once a week. She has held on to it, though, borrowing trouble, saying that if Perry should get sick she would go home, take him in and take care of him. The very best thing that can happen to Perry is for him to take care of himself, at least, for the next fifteen years. I have had several talks with him along that line, and he seems to receive everything that I say very kindly. At New Years time I gave him a few days

3

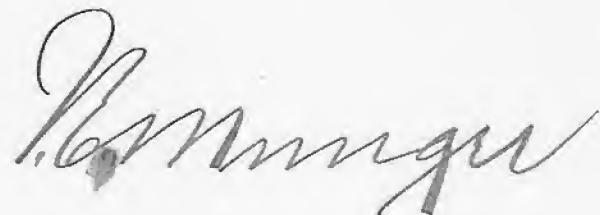
work, that he might have a little money to start on, then asked him to come in the next day and see what we could do about finding work. He did not show up for a week, - until he had spent the money and borrowed something from some young man. It is now much more than a week since I have seen him, and I do not know where he is. I told him where his mother was, but insisted that he must leave her entirely alone, and that it would be best for him to get work and make good without bothering her, to which he seemed to fully agree. I will do all I can to help him, but he always remains away until he is absolutely broke, hungry, or thinks he is going to get sick. When I see him I will tell him to write to you.

Miss Mason appreciated your very kind words about her letter writing. There are many other good things that I might say about her work but, lest I might embarrass her, will wait until some time I may say to you like Paul, "All this have I written with mine own hand."

We are all always glad to hear from you. With much love, I am

Sincerely yours

IEM/MLM

A handwritten signature in cursive ink, appearing to read "Anna M. Miller".

Dear Kirby -

P.S. Since dictating this  
your good letter came to your  
Mother yesterday.

② Your Mother went down  
yesterday vacated her room,  
rented to Mr & Mrs Douglass,  
they to pay light, telephone &  
& she seems much relieved.  
They are very good & I'm  
glad they are in her house.

③ Perry met her yesterday, got her  
to go to Recruiting Officer & newspapers per-  
mitting him to enlist in the Navy. It is a  
very good thing, best thing in the world  
for Perry - also for his Mother & you, but  
she fears he may not actually enlist. I shall



CABLE ADDRESS FIDELITY  
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# **FIDELITY CHEMICAL CORPORATION**

JAMES D. DAWSON, PRESIDENT.  
GEO. O. HASKELL, VICE PRESIDENT.  
R. F. ISBELL, SECRETARY & TREASURER.

MANUFACTURERS OF  
**COMMERCIAL FERTILIZERS**  
IMPORTERS AND DEALERS IN  
**AGRICULTURAL CHEMICALS**

P.O. DRAWER M

**Houston, Texas, January 20, 1912.**  
2 pm.

Dear Kirby:

Your shorthand letter of the 13th received. I don't seem to be able to digest it at all. Neither do I seem to be able to answer it. You know, things don't sound the same when read from a piece of paper as they do when spoken by the human voice.

I can only say this much. When we first changed our plans, it just took all the life out of me and I was not myself, ~~xxxxxx~~ mentally, for quite some while. If I should have to change them again, and I have been preparing clothes and things for quite a while, it would utterly take the heart out of me, and I wish to say definitely that I will not change them as far as postponement is concerned. It is now or never.

Alma.



JAMES D. DAWSON, PRESIDENT.  
GEO. O. HASKELL, VICE PRESIDENT.  
R. F. ISBELL, SECRETARY & TREASURER.

MANUFACTURERS OF  
**COMMERCIAL FERTILIZERS**  
IMPORTERS AND DEALERS IN  
**AGRICULTURAL CHEMICALS**

P. O. DRAWER M

*Houston, Texas*, January 22, 1912.

Dear boy:

Enclosed is a clipping that you may not have seen. I do not know if your mother knows about him or not. I presume somewhat of a load will be lifted from your mind by such an act on his part. I am sure it will be from hers. I haven't seen her since she went to Mr. Mungers and have only heard of her through you. They seem to have taken some forward steps in the case of Ivy and refused to let Perry see Ivy at all and would not even let him call her up on the phone. I don't know if that had anything to do with his going or not, but presume so.

Well, I got to wear my new suit at last and you just ought to have seen me. I tell you I looked like some show. Went to Sunday School and Church and then to Endeavor in the evening. . We are going to have some socials right soon and guess I will get to go to them. Hope so at least.

How is Montana Jack getting along with his love affairs? I hope he doesn't get too badly perplexed about them all. Tell him they are all just alike.

With much love, I am.

Yours,

*Alma*



CABLE ADDRESS "FIDELITY"  
USE A.B.C. CODES-4<sup>TH</sup> & 5<sup>TH</sup> EDITIONS

# FIDELITY COTTON OIL & FERTILIZER CO.

COTTON SEED PRODUCTS  
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## HIGH GRADE COMMERCIAL FERTILIZERS

JAMES D. DAWSON, PRESIDENT  
GEO. O. HASKELL, VICE PRESIDENT  
R. F. ISBELL, SECRETARY AND TREAS.

P.O. DRAWER M

HOUSTON, TEXAS, January 24, 1912.

Dear boy of mine:

Haven't had very much to do today, at least, I have finished up early and feel as if I hadn't had much.

I don't know just exactly how I feel today. Dan told me I was TOO good. Don't laugh now, he meant it. I asked him a question and he answered it. I guess there is really no hope for me at all. But still, Dan don't know.

Things are running along here pretty smoothly now. I went for a ride yesterday evening, the first time for quite a while after working hours. Haven't even rode much on Sundays because of the weather; but it is so pretty now, though today was rather cloudy and foggy.

Why don't you write me a long letter? You haven't written anything but notes for quite a while.

Yours

*Alma*

January 24 1912

My dear Mother:-

After looking at the matter from all sides and seriously considering all phases of the question, and after praying over it, Alma and I have decided that we will be married next summer. Now as to the financial end of the proposition, I have my plans pretty well in hand. In the first place, I expect to be able to make enough next summer to get us all here, and with what we can get out of the things in the house we ought to have almost enough to furnish a small house. With the experience that I will gain this year and with the help of Dean Kirk, who I feel sure will do everything he can for me, I am sure that I can go out each Sunday to one of the smaller churches in a nearby town, from which I could clear at least \$7.50 over and above care fare and other expenses. This would give me \$30.00 a month as a starter. Now as to the question that will be raised in your mind as to my being able to get such a place, let me say that from 75 to 100 pulpits are being filled regularly by the students of Drake, and I am absolutely sure that with the stand in that I have with Dean that I will have no trouble whatever in getting a place. In fact I could be going out every Sunday now if I wanted to, but I thought it best to stay by the Endeavor work for a time, although it is not paying me anything, for

I believe that I am coming before the people here and gaining an experience that could not be gotten by going out to the smaller towns. I am constantly speaking before the public and am getting to feel perfectly at home before an audience, which ought to help me out a great deal in my work next. Then in addition to this, I am absolutely sure that I can get enough stenographic work to pay me \$30.00 a month, which will give us an income of \$60.00 per month, which is not a king's ransom, but ought to be enough for us to live on. Again, as to the question that will be raised in your mind as to my being able to take time for all of this and yet do satisfactory school work. At the present time I am giving more than this amount of time to my stenographic work, my boys' club work and Christian endeavor, so you see from the standpoint of time it will not be a hardship on me. It is surprising how much a fellow can accomplish when he makes up his mind that he wants to.

Then I have still another plan - I know that you would not be content to sit down and fold your hands, so I have been talking things over with Mrs Middleton, and she tells me that last winter she hired a cook and kept boarders, and made enough from 8 or 10 boarders to feed her whole family of 8 people. She says that there is good money in keeping boarders in Des Moines. A good cook can be secured for \$6.00 a week and students can be secured to wait on the table and wash dishes for their meals. She said that she did not think that this would be hard on you, in fact would be easier than most anything you could do, if you felt that you must do something. I am sure that with my acquaintanceship with the

fellows here that we could get all the boarders we wanted, and Mrs Middleton said she felt sure that we could easily make our own board and room, if not more. She told me of several people in this neighborhood that have paid for their homes in this way. You see I could look after the business end of the proposition and it would not be such an awful burden on you. The beauty of it all is that it would not take much capital to start on. It would not be like trying to furnish a big house and keep roomers, and would not take anything like that amount of money to begin with. Mrs Middleton is just like a mother to me and she said that this is the thing she would do were she in my place. You see if we could make our board and room this way, the \$60.00 a month that I am sure I could make would keep us in pretty good shape. How wouldn't it mother?

The best thing about the whole proposition to me is that I would have you and Alma here with me, and I would be so happy that I could just do wonders. "ouln't we have a happy time together, though?

I have thought about the matter a very great deal and am fully convinced that all of the things outlined in this letter can be done. Write me a long letter when you can take a few moments and tell me what you think about it. With lots of love to my sweet and devoted mother, I am

Lovingly your boy as of old

Sweetheart: I wish you would go and talk this over with mother as soon as you can. It will do her a great deal of good, if you will.

January 24 1912

My dear Mother:-

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Lovingly your boy as of old



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JAMES D. DAWSON, PRESIDENT  
GEO. O. HASKELL, VICE PRESIDENT  
R. F. ISBELL, SECY AND TREAS.

P.O. DRAWER M

HOUSTON, TEXAS, January 27, 1912.

My dear boy:

I received three letters from you today. two written on the 23rd and one from the 24th. I had begun to think that you had forgotten me as it has been three or four days since I had a letter from you. However, I guess these three will make up for lost time and I will forgive you if you will promise to be good hereafter.

I suppose you remember I told you I was on the Lookout Committee, (and this is also leap year) I am doing my best to fill the job, and really did get a very nice youngster out last evening to the Social. He is a friend of Mrs. C.W.L. and is a stranger in town. He is nice looking too, and just as cute as can be, almost as cute as my boy. We had a local Union meeting and Miller is president and we had over sixty present, some number for us, and served coffee and sandwiches and passed around some home made candy afterward, and I can assure you that the dishes came back clean empty. I am not on the Social committee but I helped and I really surprised myself by the way I got along. Really, I am coming out some. A girl from out this way even said I looked like a doll and she wanted to take me home with her. A girl said that, now mind you, and I had on that old rose dress of

mine. Now if it had been a young man, it would have been all right, but a girl saying such a thing about ME. Well, I am doing my best to look the best I can and be the best I can and act the best I can, and still Dan says I treat you mighty mean. Good thing he don't know me as good as some people in this world do, isn't it.

I am sleepy as I can be today, in fact, most every one seems to be sleepy and lazy. We have regular spring weather and all the plants and trees are beginning to buy out. Suppose we will have a norther soon. I am wearing short sleeves today, and the thermometer registers 76 beside my desk with the window up and NO fire. Fine January weather, isn't it.

I shall try to go to Sunday School tomorrow and they want me to go to Endeavor, I told Mr. Johnson, our new president, I would go if he would keep his promise and find someone to lookout for me for a while so I can fill my job.

Take care of yourself, Boy Dear, just for your

own

girlie,

Alma

Yours truly yours truly  
Alma

# LINCOLN AVE. LUMBER CO.

INCORPORATED

DEALERS IN

## ROUGH AND DRESSED LUMBER LIME, LATH AND CEMENT

COR. LINCOLN AVE. AND ATLANTA ST.

*Pasadena, Cal.*

1-27-1912.

191

My Dear Mother:-

Your letter received this date informing me that you have assisted Perry to join the Navy. I think you did exactly right and the proper thing. This action has our hearty endorsement and perhaps it will be the making over into a new man the old Perry boy. I received a card from him at Dallas several days ago stating that he expected to pass through Pasadena tomorrow and announcing that he had signed up for four years. It is quite an unusual thing but as he seems to have the roving instinct in him and also to fail to make good when associated with city life and the temptations, I say it may be the very thing for him. There is one feature that strikes me, he will have a chance to see something of the world and the life will be varied and changing from time to time. I believe the water atmosphere and discipline and hard work and different companions will agree heartily with the dear old boy. Here's hoping and he has our best wishes in the venture. The best part, as I have said before, is that it will relieve you of him, and the care and anxiety that accompanies the expense. Hip-hip-hooray! Have no word from Kirby recently. Hope you are well and in good spirits. May the new position you hold continue O.K.

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Before this reaches you we hope to have an addition to the family, a girl we hope. It is this way. We are to take a 5 year old girl to live with us. Her mother is a business woman and cannot care for her so we will have her with us. About \$20.00 a month in it, and she is a beautiful little thing. Fair, intelligent, good manners, Brown eyes, fine health, and a beauty. Norma has fallen in love with her already and the mother expects to bring her out tomorrow afternoon. The arrangement is temporary and if she suits, may continue. If not, return to her mother. I think it will be good for us, experience and all, quite a change, and the money will help us to catch up. Norma helps greatly; made one dress this week for \$10. and has \$20. worth more on hand already. But you ought to see the hat she trimmed for herself. I declare it is the prettiest thing I ever saw and cost less than \$2.00, in fact \$1.35. Purchased a full length coat in Los Angeles at a big bargain, the new big flap, pocket, cuff style of rough material. So, she is well equipped and looks like a fashion plate or better.

Beginning last Sunday night we started attending a 5 lecture series at the Church by Madame Mountford. Please remember the name and if you ever have the opportunity hear her by all means. She is the daughter of a Russian nobleman who being a Christian freed his slaves and by so doing incurred the enmity of the Czar and was forced to flee the country. She was born, raised, educated in Jerusalem and devotes all her time now to lectures on the home

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land of Jesus Christ. The lectures we heard were "The Parable of the Ten Talents and the Two Thieves on the Cross," "The Nativity of Jesus Christ," "The Boyhood of Jesus Christ," "The Manhood of Jesus Christ," "The Ministry, Crucifixion and Ascension of Jesus Christ," and the Bible is a new book as a result. She is the most wonderful speaker I ever heard, better than Peter Ainslie even, and explains things from the Oriental customs and as a Jew lives.

Business is flourishing and all is lovely in this respect. Had a slight shower, very little, still continues warm and dry. Purchased 100 strawberry plants and one dozen Blackberry bushes and one dozen raspberry bushes. Will try our hand and see what results we get. Total cost only \$1.00. Health is good all the way through and we are very fortunate people.

That is about all for this time, I believe. Prospects are excellent and we are quite happy. Good luck to you as ever and we will both pray for Perry and trust that he will come out all right in the end. I think this is the turning point in his career and that he will be ambitious and rise to the top in his profession. I think he will enjoy it greatly and be happy there. So, let's not worry a bit. Fare thee well, mother dear.

Lovingly,



**LINCOLN AVENUE LUMBER CO.**  
INCORPORATED

— DEALERS IN —

**Rough and Dressed Lumber, Lime, Lath and Cement**

Corner Lincoln Ave. and Atlanta St.

Tuesday morning

*Pasadena, Cal.,*

191—

Dear Mother:-

I have not mailed your letter yet on account of quite a bit of excitement. First the little girl came into our home Sunday afternoon and keeps us busy. We like her very much.

Yesterday morning about 9 o'clock Perry walked into the office. Looked pretty bad but seems to be all O.K. Talked here until 11:30, then took him home and had him shave, wash up, gave him a shirt, white collar, two ties, two hdkfs., sox, coat, 7 two cent stamps and 30cents in money, for he borrowed 25¢ to get over to Pasadena to see us. He had a good meal with us and departed for Los Angeles at 1:00 to catch the 2:30 train out. He had a lay over from early morning so ran over meantime. But, he missed his train by 3 minutes so returned to us and spent the night in our home. We had supper and breakfast, I gave him 35¢ more and away he has gone. Hope he catches train this time without any trouble. We had a good evening, played dominoes, the three of us, then he and I played 3 games of checkers, and the balance of the time read and talked. He gave us a lot of his ins and outs; seems to be able to take care of himself even if it is by disreputable methods. Can hold his own in a fight, too. He promised to "make good" and pay up all his debts. (?) Said he would write us and do better generally. We did the best we could for him, did not believe in giving much money, and can't spare. So rest easy, he will come out O.K. Must close now. Lovingly, L.

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**LIME, LATH AND CEMENT**

COR. LINCOLN AVE. AND ATLANTA ST.

1912

1911

Pasadena, Cal. January 29, 1911

Mr. Kirby Page,  
 Des Moines, Iowa.

Dear Old Brother:-

Have enlisted in the ~~navy~~ and am now on my way to "Frisco". Had to lay over 6 hours in Los A. so ran over to see Leek. 21 of us left Dallas Thursday night via San Antonio, El Paso, etc. private pullman tourist car - all expenses paid - oh you.

Leek is looking fine I think. Pasadena is not changed much - larger of course I came straight out here to his place.

Saw Mother before I left she was very glad that I enlisted. Glad you are doing so well. Thanks for Xmas present - only one I received. Will write you my address soon as I get settled.

So long, your Bud,  
 Perry